



20961/8



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29293741>

DUBLIN

ANSWER
OF
THE GOVERNORS OF
THE
FOUNDLING HOSPITAL,
TO A
MEMORIAL
OF THE
LORD MAYOR, SHERIFFS, COMMONS, AND CITIZENS
OF DUBLIN,
TO THE
LORD LIEUTENANT,
DATED 3D OF MAY, 1816;
TRANSMITTED TO THEM BY COMMAND OF HIS EXCELLENCY,
THROUGH MR. SECRETARY GREGORY,
8TH JUNE, 1816;
TOGETHER WITH
OTHER DOCUMENTS,
EXPLAINING THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNORS,
AS CONNECTED WITH
THE ACT OF 54 GEO. III. C. 128,
EMPOWERING THEM TO SUSPEND THE ADMISSION OF
INFANTS INTO THE HOSPITAL,
FOR A LIMITED TIME IN EACH YEAR.

DUBLIN:
PRINTED FOR W. WATSON, 7, CAPEL-STREET.

1816.

310336



TO HIS EXCELLENCY
CHARLES, EARL WHITWORTH,
LORD · LIEUTENANT-GENERAL AND GENERAL
GOVERNOR OF IRELAND,

THE HUMBLE

MEMORIAL

OF

THE LORD MAYOR, SHERIFFS, COMMONS, AND
CITIZENS OF THE CITY OF DUBLIN, IN
COMMON COUNCIL ASSEMBLED,

SHEWETH,

THAT the reception of Foundlings was made one of the functions of the Dublin Work-house, founded in the 2d of Queen Anne, and continued to the 12th of Geo. III. under the control of this Corporation, and was so constituted, for the express purpose of preventing the exposure, death, and actual murder, of illegitimate Children.

That the beneficial operations of such a measure became so evident, that, in the 12th of Geo. III. a distinct Corporation was established for the purposes of the Foundling Hospital, that the sole and individual attention of its Governors might be given to an object which had previously constituted only a branch of the Work-house.

That, until the 54th of his present Majesty, the Governors of the said Work-house and Foundling Hospital were to receive young Children at all seasons of the year indiscriminately, and without any Certificate or Document, the procuring of which must necessarily have led to the discovery of the Parent or Parents, and thereby defeat the beneficial operations of these Establishments.

That, in the 54th of his present Majesty, an Act was passed, empowering the Governors of the Foundling Hospital to suspend the Admission of Infants for Six Months in the Year, and at all times to refuse them Reception, unless the Person bringing the Infant for Admission should produce a Certificate, signed by the Ministers and Church Wardens of the Parish from which said Infant is sent, setting forth, that they have made diligent inquiry respecting the Birth and Parentage of such Children, and that they have not been able to discover the Parents, or either of them, or that the Parents or Parent is not in circumstances sufficient to maintain such Child, as the case may be.

That the Governors of the Foundling Hospital have now, for more than twelve Months, acted upon the powers so conceded to them; and that the consequence of such restricted Admissions (as might naturally be expected, and as your Petitioners have every reason to believe) has been productive of the horrible crime of Infanticide, which, under the old and better system, had altogether ceased.

May it therefore please your Excellency, under all the circumstances, to use your Excellency's gracious interference with the Governors of the Foundling Hospital, that such powers shall not be exercised as would deprive the unfortunate Mother of the benefit of this otherwise valuable Establishment,

And your Memorialists will pray.

In testimony whereof we have caused our Common Seal to be hereto affixed, this 3d day of May, 1816.

(SEAL.)

*Letter from William Gregory, Esq. to the Governors of
the Foundling Hospital.*

Dublin Castle, 8th June, 1816.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

I SEND, by command of the Lord Lieutenant, a copy of a Memorial laid before his Excellency, by the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, Commons, and Citizens of Dublin, in Common Council assembled, stating, that the Restrictions lately adopted, respecting the Admission of Infants into the Foundling Hospital, have been productive of the horrible crime of Infanticide; and praying, that such powers as are vested in the Governors of the Hospital shall not be exercised, as would deprive the unfortunate Mother of the benefits of the Establishment.

And his Excellency requests you will take the said Memorial into consideration, and report your opinion whether it will be expedient to adopt any, and what measures thereupon.

I have the honor to be,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient

humble Servant,

W. GREGORY.

*Governors of the
The Foundling Hospital.*

*Reply from the Governors of the Foundling Hospital, to
the foregoing Letter and Memorial.*

Foundling Hospital, 20th June, 1816.

SIR,

WE have had the honor of receiving your Letter of the 8th Inst. inclosing, by command of the Lord Lieutenant, a Copy of a Memorial laid before his Excellency, by the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, Commons and Citizens of Dublin, in Common Council assembled, stating that the restrictions lately adopted, respecting the admission of Infants into the Foundling Hospital, have been productive of the horrible crime of Infanticide, and praying that such powers as are vested in the Governors of the Hospital shall not be exercised, as would deprive the unfortunate Mother of the benefits of the Establishment, and expressing his Excellency's wish, that we should take said Memorial into consideration, and report our opinion whether it will be expedient to adopt any, and what measures thereon.

Before we proceed to remark on the allegations contained in said Memorial, we beg leave to recal his Excellency's attention to a Memorial or Letter addressed by us to his Excellency, through Mr. Secretary Peel, bearing date the 7th October, 1813, on which, and the Documents therein referred to, the Act of Parliament of the 54th of his Majesty (of the operation of which Act the Memorial of the Corporation of the City of Dublin complains) was founded. We trust it will sufficiently appear, from the perusal of said Memorial, that we did not presume to approach his Excellency upon so serious a subject without mature deliberation, that our allegations were founded on a previous inquiry upon oath, into the causes of an extensive and alarming mortality that had prevailed among the

Infants received into the Hospital; and that, in suggesting to his Excellency's consideration what we conceived to be the only remedy for that mortality, and other evils, which the Institution over which we are placed had to contend with, we distinctly stated, "that the situation of the Hospital presented to us only a choice of difficulties. That, in particular, we were fully aware, that any attempt to regulate or restrain admission of Infants to the Hospital, might possibly lead to some instances of actual Child Murder, and would certainly be represented as tending to produce that crime;" but we further stated, "that the actual mortality among Infants, carried from distant places at inclement seasons of the year, and which it was the object of the proposed regulation to prevent, was so great," as fully to justify in our opinion the adoption of the remedy.* Many rumours of such crimes having been committed, have reached our ears since the first adoption of the measure; but, though we hold regular Boards once in every week, and are open to receive, through our officers, as well as individually, communications from all parts of Ireland, every day in the year, and are in constant habits of correspondence, through our Secretary, with the resident Clergy, particularly in the Province of Leinster, (through the several Counties of which the Children received into the Hospital are sent to Nurse,) it is remarkable that not a single fact of this kind has been stated to have taken place, by any one of our Correspondents, since the restriction of admissions took place on 1st February, 1814, though, amongst those Correspondents, some respectable characters were hostile to the regulation, and remonstrated against it, as likely to be productive of the crime of Infanticide; and but one authenticated instance of this crime, in any degree connected with the regulations of the Hospital, has been

* See Copy of said Letter, Appendix, No. 1.

brought to our notice by the public prints, during the whole of that period.

After a careful consideration of the Memorial of the Corporation of the City of Dublin, it does not appear to us to lay any solid ground for relinquishing or modifying the regulations which have been so deliberately adopted under the sanction of Parliament, and with your Excellency's previous approbation.* It does not contain the statement of one specific fact of Infanticide; it does not even pretend that the loose and general allegation, "that the restricted admissions have been productive of the horrible crime of Infanticide," is founded on any previous inquiry, or established by any proof, it is expressly stated to have no foundation, but the previous apprehensions of the Corporation, and the belief thereby excited in the minds of its members, that such facts existed; and the allegation "that the crime of Infanticide had altogether ceased under, what the Corporation is pleased to term, *the old and better system*," is equally unsupported by evidence. This absence of all proof, whether before the Corporation or Governors, strongly inclines us at present to believe, that the clamour excited against the late regulations is wholly without foundation; and while we are open to receive, and anxious to consider, any communications that may enable us to institute a sober comparison between any evils that may have resulted from the regulations, and those well-authenticated mischiefs which they were designed to remedy, we think it our duty to resist, as far as in us lies, any hasty, precipitate, and ill-considered change. The Memorial of the Corporation of the City of Dublin proceeds to state the Act of the 12th Geo. III. and that

* See Appendix, No. 2. Letter from W. Gregory, Esq. to the Governors of the Foundling Hospital, dated 10th May, 1814.

from the period of enacting that Law until the 54th of his present Majesty, “The Governors of the said Work-house and Foundling Hospital were to receive young Children at all seasons of the year indiscriminately, and *without any Certificate or Document, the procuring of which must necessarily have led to the discovery of the Parent or Parents, and thereby defeat the beneficial operations of these Establishments.*”

It would seem from this passage, as if, in the judgment of the Corporation, the beneficial operations of such Establishments consisted chiefly in concealing from public view the Fathers of illegitimate Children. The Parent who, from distress, reluctantly deposits his or her Child, whether legitimate or illegitimate, in such an Establishment, has, in general, no wish for concealment; they desire to register the name, that they may reclaim it in more favourable circumstances. The concealment serves chiefly to protect from public censure those Fathers, who, though in ample circumstances, are deaf to the calls of moral obligation, and are wholly indifferent as to the fate of their offspring. To check this abuse was one principal object of that clause of the 54th Geo. III. C. 128. Sect. 1. against the operation of which the Memorial is principally directed.

The Memorial represents this clause as introducing a practice wholly new, so far as it enables the Governors to suspend admissions for a definite period in each year: it certainly does so; but we beg leave to state, that the practice of requiring Certificates from the Minister and Church-Wardens prevailed long before, and was in use during the continuance of the former system, as appears by a Report of a Committee of the House of Commons of Ireland, appointed to inquire into the management and state of the Foundling Hospital, in the year 1797

in consequence of which Report, the Government of the Hospital was, by an Act passed in the subsequent Session of Parliament, transferred, from the persons who had then the management of it, into other hands, and to which Report we beg leave to refer his Excellency for further information on the subject.*

The Act complained of, in this respect, does nothing more than give efficacy to an old regulation not contrary to any preceding Law, though not specifically required by any—which had been adopted by former Governors as a Bye-Law, and acted upon under the former system, but was liable to be evaded, because not distinctly enacted by public law, nor sanctioned by any punishment being provided for the breach of it—an omission which has been supplied by the third Section of the Act in question.

The Memorial of the Corporation proceeds to state, that “the Governors of the Foundling Hospital have now, for more than Twelve Months, acted under the powers so conceded to them.”

We fully admit, that we have acted under the powers vested in us by the Act of the 54th Geo. III. for two successive years, viz. 1815, and 1816. That during the first of those years the admission of Children (except from the County and County of the City of Dublin,) was wholly suspended for two months, viz. from 1st February to 1st April, and during the second for three months, viz. from 1st January to 1st April; and that during the whole of the period commencing first February, 1815, up to the present day, the Certificates required by the 54th Geo. III. have been called for from all persons presenting Children for admission, whether from the County and County of the City of Dublin, or elsewhere—a restriction which, we humbly but confidently insist, can rarely be felt as a

* See Appendix, Report, No. 3.

grievance on a Mother, but may certainly have a tendency to bring forward the question of the Father's responsibility ; but even the possible case, of a Mother unwilling to discover the Father, or to disclose her own shame to any other human being ; and, at the same time, possessing such a remnant of moral feeling, as to induce her to prefer exposing her Child, to murdering it, is provided for by the Cradle being open at all times during the day and night, at all seasons, except the short intervals when general admission is suspended.

His Excellency will perceive, from the foregoing statement, that the power vested in the Governors, of suspending admission altogether, has never been exercised by them, with respect to the County and County of the City of Dublin, or the Liberties thereof, a part of that District being the subject of a local Tax, in aid of the Funds of the Foundling Hospital ; we have always deemed it prudent to exercise the discretion vested in us by the Legislature, in the most cautious, and (so far as any claim of exemption could be advanced,) in the most liberal manner ; and we think we have just cause to complain, that the Statement of the Memorial of the Corporation of the City of Dublin is so loose and so general, that it confounds the exercise of two distinct powers ; the power of wholly suspending admissions during a limited period, and the power of requiring Certificates, and must necessarily have induced his Excellency in the first instance to conclude, " that the
 " County and County of the City of Dublin had been made
 " subject to all the powers vested in the Governors, by the
 " 54th of his Majesty." We therefore beg leave distinctly to repeat, " that at no moment since the passing of the Act
 " of the 54th Geo. III. has any Child been refused
 " admission at the Gate of the Foundling Hospital, from
 " the County and County of the City of Dublin, except
 " where the persons presenting such Child declined to

“produce the Certificates required by the Act of 54th “Geo. III.”—and that in the exercise of this power of qualified refusal, so much discretion has been exercised (under their direction) by the Officers, that not a single complaint of any instance of hardship has come before them, collectively or individually.

Having already taken the liberty of referring his Excellency to our Memorial of the 7th October, 1813, as containing the principal grounds of the measure therein recommended, we must beg leave further to solicit his Excellency’s attention, while we present a succinct view of the past history and present state of the Hospital, so far as it is connected with the matter of complaint contained in the Memorial of the Corporation of the City of Dublin.

Under the former Corporation created by the 12th Geo. III. of which the Lord Mayor, Recorder and Sheriffs for the time being, and the Aldermen of the City of Dublin, were component members, and which was finally dissolved by the 38th Geo. III. in consequence of a Report of a Select Committee made in the Session before, the difficulties arising “*from the numbers of Children living to an age capable of admission into the Schools of the Hospital, and of providing suitable places for these Children, when of an age fit to be apprenticed,*”—were wholly unknown to the persons in whom the management of the Hospital was then vested. The mortality was so great, that, (although the average number of admissions continued the same for many years previous to 1798, and for some years after,) the inconvenience from numbers was never felt; and it being the practice frequently to apprentice Children, without ever receiving them into the Schools at all, the redundancy (if any had ever existed) would have been thus prevented. The regulations of the Infant Nursery, established in 1797, introduced a total reformation in this important article—

“ the preservation of the lives of the Children admitted ;”
 in so much, that the annual increase of living Children
 had, in the year 1803, presented such a result to the
 Governors, that they were induced to recommend to his
 Excellency the then Lord Lieutenant, “ that the Schools,
 “ which were then capable of accommodating only 600
 “ Children, should be so enlarged, as to receive 1200 ;”
 and they were at the time persuaded, that a regular system
 of taking in 400 Children every year, and apprenticing
 400 out, giving three years education to each, might be
 established in such a way, as to ensure to every Child, who
 attained the age of eight or nine years, the benefit of
 education in the House. The numbers, however, in spite
 of various impediments and abuses inseparably connected
 with such an Institution, and which, though we have
 endeavoured to correct, it is impossible wholly to remove,
 still continuing to increase annually ; and the expectations
 of the Governors, as to increasing demand for apprentices,
 being wholly disappointed ; we forbore, in the Memorial
 of 7th October, 1813, to recommend any farther extension
 of the Schools, but humbly represented, as the result of
 our best consideration, “ that the only remedy for the
 “ evils, which threatened the overthrow of the whole Esta-
 “ blishment, was to be sought in the reduction of the
 “ numbers admitted.” How the same measure, which
 was calculated ultimately to reduce the number of admis-
 sions, appeared to the Governors likely also to diminish
 the most alarming cause of mortality, “ namely, that of
 “ carriage of Infants in the inclement seasons of the year,”
 has been already explained in the Memorial of the 7th
 October, 1813, to which we have already taken the liberty
 of soliciting his Excellency’s attention. In answer to the
 Memorial of the Corporation, it is sufficient to state, that
 the primary object of the Governors was the diminution of

mortality; and we feel ourselves warranted in asserting, “that every life saved by the suspension of admissions, is, “in reality, a case of Infanticide prevented,” in the fair sense of the word; as the exposing of a new-born Infant, under the care of an hireling Dry Nurse, hardened in the trade of a Carrier, in the midst of Winter, to a journey sometimes of upwards of one hundred miles, can hardly be described by any milder phrase, and is, in fact, productive of Mortality in a great majority of cases.

In the application of this remedy, and in our endeavours to prepare the minds of all concerned in giving efficacy to it, we have proceeded with the most scrupulous caution, as will appear from the following Statement of our proceedings, and the Documents therein referred to:

About the beginning of the year 1813, being alarmed at an uncommon Mortality among the Infants in the Nursery, we instituted an inquiry upon oath into the causes of it, and, having concluded our inquiry, immediately proceeded to adopt such measures of regulation, as well in the Infirmary Department, as with respect to carriage of Infants, as seemed to us best calculated to mitigate their operation. The evils inseparably connected with “the carriage of Infants in Winter” appearing to be the principal cause, we circulated among the Magistrates and Clergy, through all parts of Ireland, the Papers marked Nos. 4 and 5, containing a summary view of the result of our inquiry, and extracts from certain Acts of Parliament, which appeared to us calculated, if duly put in force, in a great degree to correct them---the execution of which, however, in no degree depended on us. Having reason, however, to apprehend that they would be but partially enforced, and being impressed with the conviction resulting from the evidence before us, that “many hundred “Infants perished every year by carriage in the Winter

“Months, and that these deaths were accompanied by much
 “lingering suffering, and frequently positive guilt, on the
 “part of the carrying Nurses, though incapable of being
 “established by legal proof,” we presented to his Excellency
 the Memorial of the 7th October, 1813, in which his
 Excellency was pleased to express his concurrence,* and
 on which the Act of the 54th of his Majesty was founded.

As soon as we were furnished with printed Copies of
 this Act, we proceeded to post and circulate the Notices
 thereby required, and accompanied them with a Circular
 Letter, addressed to the Magistrates, Clergy, Church-
 Wardens, and all Persons concerned in the transmission
 of Children to the Hospital throughout all parts of Ire-
 land, and a copious Extract from the Act of the 54th of
 his Majesty. These Letters and Notices bear date Sep-
 tember, 1814, and were in circulation in the month of
 October following, upwards of three months before the
 first suspension of admissions took place.

Copies of these several Papers, marked Nos. 6, 7, 8,
 accompany this Statement.

In the following year (1815) we issued another Circular
 Letter, bearing date the 15th June, 1815, addressed, in
 like manner, to the several Persons concerned in the trans-
 mission of Infants to this Hospital, together with the
 Notices required by the 54th of his Majesty; and in this
 Letter we were enabled to state the result of the first two
 months suspension of admissions. It appears that the num-
 ber of admissions in those two months was reduced to
 about one fourth of the average number admitted in the
 corresponding months of the five preceding years; and
 this reduction of admissions from the Country being
 unaccompanied with the statement of a single fact of

* See No. 2. already referred to.

Infanticide, we think it may fairly be concluded, that the lives of a considerable proportion of the remaining three-fourths were saved by the measure. The Children actually received during those two months (with the exception of a few cases which appear to have been sent up from ignorance, and the refusal of which might have been attended with danger to the Infants,) were received from the County of the City of Dublin.

Copies of the Circular Letter of 15th June, 1815, and the accompanying Notice, are annexed, marked Nos. 9 and 10.

A similar result is presented by the Letters now about to be circulated, a copy of which, marked No. 11, also accompanies this Statement.*

While the measure referred to in this Letter was in progress, and previous to its having been actually put into operation, the causes of the Infant Mortality at this Hospital (which had been already the subject of inquiry by us) were investigated by a distinct Board, the Commissioners of the Board of Education; and all the grounds on which we had proceeded, in recommending the suspension of admission during a part of the year, were fully laid before those Commissioners, and, as we conceived, fully approved by them; and we take the liberty of stating their concurrence, not for the purpose of diminishing our own responsibility, but to shew that the facts and reasoning, upon which we proceeded, had produced the same conviction upon all other minds to which they were presented.

We feel it necessary to apologize for having occupied so much time in this explanation; but the importance of the subject, and the misconceptions which have prevailed, as to the nature and object of our proceedings, will, it is

* See also Copy of Notice circulated and posted this year—No. 12.

humbly hoped, be deemed a sufficient excuse. We have now only to solicit a few moments farther attention, in order to add some observations explanatory of a passage in our Memorial of 7th October, 1813, which is as follows:

“ The Governors are fully aware, that the operation of
 “ any such law must be uncertain, and embarrassed by
 “ many difficulties in the execution. They feel, too, that
 “ it may be objected to such a measure, that it is calcu-
 “ lated to produce, to a certain extent, the crime of Child
 “ Murder, the very evil which a Foundling Hospital was
 “ instituted to prevent; but, on a full view of the difficulties
 “ inseparably connected with, and progressively growing
 “ out of the present system, and being fully convinced
 “ that more lives are actually lost by carriage, and its con-
 “ sequences, than saved, by the existence of the Hospital,
 “ under the best possible regulation of which such an
 “ Institution (while open to Admissions at all seasons of
 “ the year) may be capable, they feel themselves, on the
 “ whole, called upon strenuously to recommend the adop-
 “ tion of a measure (the only one they can devise) for
 “ gradually diminishing the number of Admissions, thus
 “ reducing the Hospital into a more manageable compass,
 “ on a scale of less expense, and more benefit to the in-
 “ dividuals who may partake of the protection it affords,
 “ and laying a foundation for the total abolition of the
 “ Establishment, when a more advanced state of society
 “ shall appear to render such a measure safe, humane,
 “ and practicable.”

In thus expressing our opinion as to an effect which may ultimately result from the measures now in operation, we beg leave distinctly to state, that we are so fully convinced of the necessity of continuing to support this Institution, now so long established in this country, that we should be among the foremost to deprecate and resist any sudden

change; and that we do not contemplate the abolition of it as a measure desirable, or even possible, to be accomplished, except at a remote period of time, and by the gradual operation of regulations from time to time adapted to the circumstances of the country; but we think it right to state, that our experience of the difficulties of conducting such Institutions, and the evils resulting from them, lead us strongly to coincide with those writers on political economy, who have endeavoured to prove that they were, on the whole, injurious to the morals, and, consequently, to the happiness of society; and that their effects in saving life were, upon the whole, under the best management, extremely doubtful.

We are, however, anxious to submit all our proceedings and conclusions to his Excellency's revision, and are open to receive, and attentively consider, any evidence which may tend to shew that any of the conclusions on which we have or are proceeding are erroneous.

(Signed) JAMES CLEGHORN, Chairman.
 WILLIAM DISNEY,
 JOHN POMEROY,
 HENRY MOORE,
 GEORGE RENNY.

To
 Wm. Gregory, Esq. &c. &c.

Letter from Wm. Gregory, Esq. to the Governors of the Foundling Hospital.

Dublin Castle, 15th July, 1816.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

THE Lord Lieutenant has had under his consideration your Letter of the 20th June, in answer to mine of the 8th, transmitting a Copy of a Memorial from the Lord Mayor, Commons, and Citizens of Dublin, relative to the restrictions lately adopted respecting the admission of Infants into the Foundling Hospital; and I am commanded by his Excellency to signify his approbation of the Regulations you have established, which it appears to his Excellency have not been productive of the evils apprehended, but, on the contrary, have been attended with good effects.

His Excellency has also considered your Register's Letter of the 11th instant, stating, that it appears to you that several misconceptions have prevailed, relative to the nature and object of the measures lately adopted by you, under the sanction of Parliament, respecting the admission of Infants into the Hospital; and that misrepresentations, which you conceive to be founded wholly in error, have made their way into the Public Prints. You submit to his Excellency the expediency of printing a Statement of your Proceedings on the subject, including your Letter to his Excellency, dated 7th October, 1813, my Letter to you of the 10th May, 1814, and your Letter of the 20th June last, in answer to the Memorial of the Corporation of

the City of Dublin; and I am directed by his Excellency to acquaint you, that he approves of your publishing a Statement of your Proceedings, and the Letters before mentioned.

I have the honor to be,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient

Humble Servant,

W. GREGORY.

*To the Governors of the
Foundling Hospital.*

APPENDIX, No. I.

Copy of a Letter from the Governors of the Foundling Hospital, Dublin, to the Right Hon. Robert Peel, dated 7th October, 1813.

Foundling Hospital, October 7, 1813.

THE Governors of the Foundling Hospital having been enabled, by the liberality of Parliament, to carry into execution every plan, from time to time, suggested for the improvement of the Institution, and having been thus possessed of the means of ascertaining the degree in which it was capable of being made useful to the State, feel it their duty to lay before your Excellency the result of their experience and observation, and of a late inquiry into the causes of an increased mortality in the Infant Department, and to suggest to your consideration such measures as appear to them to be called for, under the present circumstances of the Establishment.

The plan laid down for conducting the Institution, succinctly stated, is as follows:

I. That 1200 grown Children should constantly be in the Schools of the Hospital.

II. That this number should be kept up, by annually taking into the Hospital, from their Country Nurses, the Children of eight years of age, which amount in each year to somewhat more than 400.

III. That, in order to make room for the reception of this annual supply, 400 Children should be apprenticed, or otherwise provided for out of the House.

The failure of an adequate demand for Apprentices, or of any other mode of providing for the Children, (particularly the Females,) obstructs the execution of this plan, and must continue to obstruct, and finally to overthrow it,

unless some new means of removing this difficulty shall present themselves.

By the constitution of this and other similar Institutions in Ireland, the Children can be disposed of only to Protestants, and the supply is much greater than the demand.

Under such circumstances, it would be vain to propose any enlargement of the Schools as a remedy. No definite extent of accommodation could be stated as adequate to meet the exigency, so long as the outlet continues to be obstructed.

The remedy, therefore, as it appears to the Governors, must be looked for in an endeavour to diminish the number of the Admissions of Infants at the gate—a measure which a late inquiry, instituted by them into the causes of an increased mortality in the Infant Department, seems forcibly to recommend, on grounds of a distinct nature,

A great increase of Admissions, which had taken place for the last five years, (particularly in the last year, 1812,) appeared, at first view, to threaten additional embarrassments to the Institution, already labouring under the effects of increased numbers; but, on examining the number of deaths in the Infant Department, the mortality was found to have increased in a still greater proportion.

This fact excited the attention of the Governors, who immediately instituted a solemn inquiry, upon oath, into the causes of it, which were found reducible to two Heads:

I. Embarrassment in the Infant Department, arising from the increase of numbers, and the sudden and irregular manner in which this increase took place; the particulars of which will appear from the evidence subjoined.

II. The evils inseparably connected with the conveyance of Infant Children, separated from their Mothers, and carried, some 150 miles and upwards, and that immediately after birth, insufficiently clothed, by hired Carriers, generally of the lowest description and most abandoned character, and rendered callous by the practice of the trade, at all times of the year, and under every inclemency of weather, from the respective places of birth to the Hospital; all these circumstances being further aggravated by the late increase of the numbers conveyed, which, by pressing on the parochial funds allotted for the purpose, rendered the accommo-

ditions provided for them more scanty, and by the poverty and scarcity, which were probably principal causes of that increase.

With respect to the first of those two general sources of mortality, the Medical Governors of the Hospital, after visiting and inspecting carefully the Foundling Department and the Infirmary, prepared a Report, suggesting such regulations as appeared to them calculated to correct the evils resulting from increased numbers, so far as they were capable of being alleviated by any internal regulations, which Report was immediately adopted, and the proposed regulations carried into effect. But the Governors have no hesitation in declaring it to be their decided and unanimous opinion, that the principal causes of mortality are to be found under the second head, and that, however they may be mitigated, they are incapable of being completely removed by any human regulation, it being impossible to provide a substitute for that principle of affection which Providence has generally implanted in the breast of Mothers, for the protection of their offspring.

With a view to mitigation, however, the Governors addressed circular letters to the several Clergy and Magistrates, on whom the duty of providing for the conveyance of Children devolves; pointing out such regulations as appeared to them calculated to reduce mortality, and alleviate the suffering of Infants.

To enable them to apply any further remedy, the Governors must look to the assistance of Parliament. As the Law stands at present, they are not authorized to refuse admission to any Child, under the age of twelve months, left at the gate of the Hospital at any hour of the day or night, on any day in the year: they therefore humbly submit to the consideration of your Excellency the expediency of recommending, that a Law should be passed enabling the Governors to shut the doors of the Hospital against the admission of Infants for a certain period in each year not exceeding six months, under certain regulations; and also, during the periods when Infants are received, to reject such, whose Parents can be ascertained to be in circumstances capable of maintaining them. And they humbly submit, that the probable operation of such a Law will be not only to diminish mortality and alleviate

suffering, but to lessen the number of Children presented for admission, for the following reasons:

I. The heaviest mortality is found to take place in the winter and spring months. By shutting the doors during the inclement season, the mortality arising from carriage during this period would be altogether removed.

II. The Infants, thus detained in the places where born, would have much better chance of life, under almost any circumstances they could be left in, than by being sent to the Hospital: this ready resource for disposing of them being taken away, it would rarely happen that they would be altogether abandoned: the Mothers, from whom they are often torn, would discover them, and struggle for their maintenance: profligate Fathers, who can reconcile themselves to this mode of relieving themselves from a burden, would be compelled, by shame or compunction, to make some provision for their maintenance: affection would grow up in the Nurse; and many who, in the week after birth, are hurried off by a hired Carrier to Dublin, would find a permanent asylum from the tenderness and compassion of the persons to whom they were confided: if ultimately sent to the Hospital, the danger would be greatly mitigated by the increased fitness of the Child to bear the fatigues of carriage.

III. The scrutiny which it is proposed the Governors should be authorized to make, as to the circumstances of the Parents, would reduce the class of admissions, which consists of the Children of profligate Parents, capable of maintaining them, which the Governors have reason to believe is not inconsiderable.

The Governors are fully aware that the operation of any such Law must be uncertain, and embarrassed by many difficulties in the execution: they feel, too, that it may be objected to such a measure, that it is calculated to produce, to a certain extent, the crime of Child Murder, the very evil which a Foundling Hospital was instituted to prevent. But on a full view of the difficulties inseparably connected with, and progressively growing out of, the present system; and being fully convinced that more lives are actually lost by carriage, and its consequences, than saved by the existence of the Hospital, under the best possible regulation of which such an Institution (while open to Admissions at

all seasons of the year) may be capable; they feel themselves, on the whole, called upon strenuously to recommend the adoption of a measure (the only one they can devise) for gradually diminishing the number of Admissions, thus reducing the Hospital into a more manageable compass, on a scale of less expense, and more benefit to the individuals who may partake of the protection it affords; and laying a foundation for the total abolition of the Establishment, when a more advanced state of society shall appear to render such a measure safe, humane, and practicable.

The Governors have taken up so much of your Excellency's time in the foregoing statement, that they forbear to urge all the additional arguments which might be adduced in support of the measure recommended: they shall confine themselves to one further observation.—The annual sum paid to Country Nurses for the last three years, at the small allowance of £3 for every dry Child, and £5 for every sucking Child, for the first year, has exceeded, in each of the last three years, £15,500; the allowance is certainly too small. The addition of £2 for every Child would increase the annual expenses of the Establishment, by a sum of from £8000 to £10,000; there being at present from 4 to 5000 Children maintained at Nurse, by the Institution. Though this increase is not likely to form an item in the estimate for the ensuing year, (the Governors forbearing to make any proposition for increase, except on grounds of plain necessity,) there can be no doubt that it would be now attended with beneficial effects, and will, ere long, be forced upon them by the increasing difficulty of procuring Nurses, which has already begun to be experienced.

(Signed)

ARTHUR GUINNESS, Chairman.
JAMES CLEGHORN,
GEORGE RENNY,
HOSEA GUINNESS,
JOHN POMEROY.

To

The Right Hon. Robert Peel, &c. &c.

APPENDIX, No. II.

*Copy of a Letter from Wm. Gregory, Esq. to the Governors
of the Foundling Hospital.*

Dublin Castle, 10th May, 1814.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

THE Lord Lieutenant has under consideration your representation, stating the result of your inquiry into the causes of an increased mortality in the Infant Department, and suggesting such measures as appeared to you to be called for, under the present circumstances of the Establishment of the Foundling Hospital; and his Excellency concurring in the view you have taken of the subject, a Bill, in conformity with the draught which accompanied your representation, has been prepared, and has passed through the House of Commons, a Copy of which I now inclose, by his Excellency's command, for your information.

(Signed)

W. GREGORY,

*Governors of
The Foundling Hospital.*

APPENDIX, No. IV.

I AM directed by the GOVERNORS of the FOUNDLING HOSPITAL to solicit your immediate attention to the following facts and observations, the result of a late solemn inquiry upon oath, into the causes of an increased Mortality, which has taken place of late years among the Infants received into that Institution.

It has been clearly established by unquestionable evidence, that the principal causes of mortality are the following:

1st. *The impoverished state of the Infants, and the scantiness of their Clothing, at the time of delivery at the gate of the Hospital. The comparison of the admissions of the two last years, with those of former years, is in both respects highly unfavourable to the recent admissions, particularly to those of the last twelve months.*

2d. *The effects of carriage, especially from the more distant parts, even when reasonable care, tenderness and humanity, are exercised by the Nurses.*

3d. *The general want of care and tenderness among the Nurses, who are in the habit of exercising the employment of carrying Infants, and who are known under the character of Carrying Nurses.*

4th. *The very early age at which Infants are transmitted to the Hospital; a circumstance which greatly aggravates the bad effects of all the fore-mentioned causes, and tends to render them fatal in a much greater number of instances.*

Without entering into a detail of the evidence, it may be sufficient to remark, in illustration of the foregoing statement, that it has clearly appeared that a much greater number of Infants have died suddenly within these last three years, than in any former period since the establishment of the new Regulations for the conduct of the Nursery in one thousand seven hundred and ninety-seven; and that

particularly in the last year, upwards of one hundred and eighty died suddenly, within a few hours after being received into the Hospital, and when they arrived were in a state incapable of deglutition.

The high price of provisions, and other circumstances of distress, prevailing within the period to which these observations principally apply, are obviously the sources to which the first cause of increased mortality is to be referred. As to this point, the Governors can do no more than state the facts that have been incontestibly established, leaving it to the discretion and humanity of those who, in the several parts of Ireland, superintend the transmission of Infants to the Foundling Hospital, to suggest and apply such remedies as circumstances will admit.

As to the second cause; as the pernicious effects of carriage are augmented in proportion to the distance from whence the Children are conveyed, it will be peculiarly incumbent on the persons who superintend the transmission of Infants from the remoter parts of Ireland, to be careful in the choice of their carrying Nurses, and in the quality and quantity of Clothing: without attention to these points, no care, subsequent to the reception of the Child at the Hospital, can repair the effects of the original neglect or deficiency. In order to give effect, as far as in them lies, to such Regulations as may be adopted for this purpose in any part of Ireland, the Governors will give the strictest charge, that no Nurse shall obtain at the Hospital a Certificate of the delivery of any Child, without a specific statement of the situation in which such Child was received in every particular, in order that payment may be withheld from such as are not able to produce satisfactory Certificates; and in aid of such Regulations, wherever they may be adopted, they will take into consideration the establishment of Premiums, out of the funds of the Hospital, to such Nurses as may appear to be deserving of encouragement.

With respect to the late cause, operating to produce mortality, it has appeared, that the Children are sent up, in most instances, immediately after their birth; and it is stated to be the opinion of eminent Medical Practitioners, that even the delay of ten or twenty days, in the transmission of a Child, may be of decisive consequence as to the preservation of life.

The Governors feel that they cannot too earnestly press on the attentive consideration of the Clergy, Church-wardens, Magistrates, and others, who take a part in the transmission of Children from the country, the foregoing facts, which clearly establish that the principal causes of the mortality are quite out of the reach of any new internal regulation in the management of the Hospital. The Governors can only offer their zealous and sedulous co-operation, wherever it may appear capable of being applied; and on the subject of the last mentioned cause, namely, "*the too early transmission of Infants from the Country,*" they beg leave to call the attention of the Clergy and Church-wardens in particular, to the Acts of the 11 & 12 Geo. 3. c. 15, and to the 13 & 14 Geo. 3. c. 24, (copious extracts from which accompany this Letter), which render it imperative on the several Parishes in IRELAND, (except in the Cities of DUBLIN and CORK) to assess in Vestry the sum of £5, for the Maintenance and Education of every deserted Child. These Acts empower the raising of a fund, amply sufficient for the Maintenance, &c. of every such Child, for one year; thus furnishing, in all cases, the means of providing for their Support, "*at least till they can be transmitted, without imminent hazard, if not probable sacrifice of their lives, the inevitable result of transmission in the first three months after birth, in a great majority of cases.*" They also beg leave to remark, that as the Institution was designed only for Children absolutely deserted, or whose parents (if to be found) are utterly incapable of maintaining them, the transmission of Children ought not to be facilitated at the public expense without a previous inquiry, whether the Parents can be found, and whether they are in circumstances which render them incapable of rearing the Child.

By Order,

A. BAILIE, Register.

Foundling Hospital,

15th April, 1813.

APPENDIX, No. V.

Extracts from two Acts of Parliament, for the Maintenance and Education of deserted Infants:

11 and 12 Geo. 3. c. 15. sec. 1. enacts, “ That in every
 “ City in this kingdom (except the Cities of Dublin and
 “ Cork), a Vestry shall be held annually in every Parish
 “ within such Cities, on some day in the first week in June,
 “ of which public notice shall be given by the Minister or
 “ his Curate, at least six days previous to such Vestry
 “ (exclusive of the day of notice, and of the day of holding
 “ such Vestry)—and the Minister, or Curate, Church-
 “ wardens, and Parishioners of every such Parish, shall,
 “ at such Vestries respectively, annually choose three
 “ Overseers out of the inhabitants of every such Parish.”

Sect. 2, enacts, “ That such Overseers shall take up
 “ and provide for the maintenance and education of all
 “ such Children as shall be deserted and exposed, within
 “ their respective Parishes, provided always, that not more
 “ than the sum of five pounds shall be allowed for such
 “ Child.”

Sect. 3.—“ And to the end that the expense of main-
 “ taining such Children may be equally borne by the
 “ inhabitants of such Cities respectively, be it enacted,
 “ That the Overseers of every Parish in such Cities
 “ respectively, shall, from time to time, as occasion shall
 “ require, assemble together, and settle and determine
 “ what sums of money shall be raised upon the inhabitants
 “ of such Cities respectively, for the purpose of maintaining
 “ and educating such deserted Children; and such Over-
 “ seers, or the major part of them, shall at such meetings
 “ equally and impartially assess such sums, so to be raised
 “ upon the inhabitants of the several houses within such
 “ Cities respectively, according to the Minister’s Money

“ payable out of such houses; and where such houses are
 “ not rated to the Minister, the same shall be valued by
 “ such Overseers, or the major part of them, and rated
 “ accordingly.”

Sect. 4, enacts, “ That such Overseers, &c. or some
 “ person or persons appointed by them, shall collect the
 “ several sums so assessed, and apply the same for the
 “ maintenance and education of such deserted Children,
 “ within their respective Parishes; and if any occupier of
 “ any house shall refuse or neglect to pay the sum so
 “ assessed to such Overseers, or the person or persons by
 “ them appointed, for the space of two days after demand
 “ thereof, the same shall be levied on every such occupier
 “ by distress and sale of his or her goods by warrant,
 “ under the hands and seals of such Overseers, returning
 “ the overplus, if any, after deducting all charges attending
 “ the same, to the owner of such goods so distrained.”

Sect. 5, enacts, “ That such Overseers shall return a
 “ quarterly account to Minister or Curate on oath, (which
 “ oath Minister or Curate is empowered to administer),
 “ of the sums levied, and how same have been applied.”

Sect. 6, enacts, “ That if any Overseer die within the
 “ year, another shall be chosen within ten days after his
 “ decease, at a Vestry, of which four days previous notice
 “ at least shall be given.”

Sect. 7, enacts, “ That every such Overseer shall,
 “ within six days after election, take an oath before Chief
 “ Magistrate of the City, &c. &c. that he will fairly and
 “ justly, without favour or affection, assess such sums as
 “ may be necessary to be raised for the purposes aforesaid.”

Sect. 8, enacts, “ That Overseers shall keep a regular
 “ account in a book, of sums raised, and names of persons
 “ upon whom levied—of which copies to be delivered to
 “ Minister or Curate, to which Parishioners may have
 “ recourse at reasonable times.”

Sect. 9.—“ If Parishioners neglect or refuse to elect
 “ Overseers, Minister, or, in his absence, Curate, may
 “ appoint three Overseers, who are invested with the same
 “ powers as if elected.”

Sect. 10.—“ Suits for any thing done under this Act,
 “ to be commenced within six months—Act to be deemed
 “ a public Act.”

13 & 14 Geo. 3. c. 24. sec. 1. refers to the above-mentioned Act of 11 & 12 Geo. 3. c. 15. and enacts, “ That in
 “ every parish *in Ireland* (except in the Cities of Dublin
 “ and Cork, for which provision is made by particular
 “ Acts of Parliament) a Vestry shall be held annually, at
 “ such time, &c. &c. by such persons, and in such regu-
 “ lations, and invested with such powers, as is directed by
 “ said Act of 11 & 12 Geo. 3. with respect to Parishes
 “ *within Cities*; and that the Overseers in such Parishes
 “ respectively shall take up and provide for the Mainte-
 “ nance and Education of all such Children as shall be
 “ deserted and exposed within their respective Parishes,
 “ at the age of twelve months or under, subject to the re-
 “ strictions in the said first mentioned Act; and such sums
 “ of money as shall be necessary for the purposes aforesaid,
 “ shall be raised upon the respective Parishes, in the
 “ same manner, and with such remedies, as other Parish
 “ Cesses.”

Sect. 2, enacts, “ That so much of said first mentioned
 “ Act (sect. 11 & 12 Geo. 3. c. 15.) as directs, that the sums
 “ to be raised in pursuance of said Act shall be assessed
 “ upon the inhabitants of the several houses within such
 “ Cities respectively, according to the Minister’s Money
 “ payable out of such houses, may be repealed; and that
 “ such sums shall be assessed by the persons, and in the
 “ manner therein decided, upon the inhabitants of the
 “ several houses within such Cities respectively, according
 “ to the value of such houses respectively.”

Sect. 3. enacts, “ That if any Parish shall refuse or
 “ neglect to raise such sums as shall be necessary for the
 “ purposes of this or the said former Act, it shall and may
 “ be lawful to and for the next going Judges of Assize, or
 “ one of them, upon complaint made to him, or them, by
 “ the Parish Minister or Curate of such Parish, (which
 “ complaint such Minister or Curate is hereby required
 “ to make,) of such refusal or neglect, to order such
 “ sum to be raised on such Parish, as he or they shall
 “ think fit, so as the same do not exceed the sum of Five
 “ Pounds for each Child, which shall be left exposed or
 “ deserted in such Parish, of the age of 12 months or
 “ under; and the sums so directed to be raised, shall be
 “ assessed and levied upon such Parish by the persons,

“ in the manner, and with the like remedies, as money
 “ presented by Grand Juries to be raised; and the sums
 “ so levied shall be paid to the Minister or Curate of such
 “ Parish, and by him applied to the purposes of the said
 “ Act; and the Judge or Judges of Assize, to whom such
 “ complaint shall be made, are hereby empowered and
 “ required to examine upon oath, touching the matter of
 “ such complaint.”

Sect 4, enacts, “ That if any Overseer, appointed in
 “ pursuance of this or the said former Act, shall refuse or
 “ neglect to execute the duty of said Office, he shall forfeit
 “ for every such offence the sum of Ten Pounds, to be
 “ recovered by Civil Bill, in the name of the Minister or
 “ Curate of such Parish, in which such neglect or refusal
 “ shall happen, with full costs of Suit; and the sum so
 “ recovered shall be applied towards the maintenance and
 “ education of the deserted Children in said Parish.”

Sect. 5 & 6, relate to another subject.

Sect. 7, declares this a public Act, and provides that
 Suits for any thing done under it must be commenced
 within six months.

APPENDIX, No. VI.

NOTICE.

Foundling Hospital, Dublin, 15th September, 1814.

AN Act of Parliament passed in the 54th year of the Reign of his present Majesty, Chap. 128, entitled, “An Act to amend the several Acts for Regulating the Foundling Hospital in Dublin,” having been read and taken into consideration—it is ordered by the Governors, That, from and after the First day of February, in the year 1815, no Child whatever shall be received or admitted into this Hospital, at any period of the year, unless the person by whom such Infant is brought for admission shall produce to the Porter of said Hospital a Certificate signed by the Minister and Church-wardens of the Parish from whence said Child was brought, setting forth, “that the said Minister and Church-wardens have made diligent inquiry respecting the birth and parentage of said Child, and that they have not been able to discover the Parents of such Child, or either of them; or, that the Parents or Parent of such Child is not in circumstances sufficient to maintain such Child.”

And it having appeared to the Governors, by examination on oath, and by inspection of the Registry, that a heavy mortality has been found to prevail in the Hospital in the Winter and Spring Months, and that such mortality has been owing chiefly to the effects of carriage at that inclement season :

It is further ordered, in pursuance of the authority vested in them by the said Act of Parliament, that, from and after the 1st day of February, until the 1st day of April, 1815, no Child whatever shall be received or admitted into this Hospital from any part of Ireland (except the County of the City of Dublin, and the Liberties

thereof); and the Porter is hereby required to attend to the execution of this and the foregoing Order at his Peril.

Third Clause of said Act—" And be it further enacted, " That if any Person shall forge or counterfeit any Certificate of any Minister or Church-warden, required by " this Act, or any paper purporting to be such Certificate, " or shall forge or counterfeit the name or hand-writing " of any Person, or Persons, required to subscribe any " such Certificate, the Offender, being thereof convicted " according to Law, either at any Assizes, or at any " General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the County, " City, Town, or Place, where such offence shall be committed, shall be imprisoned for any term, not less than " two years, as the Court, before whom such Person was " convicted, shall order and direct."

The Governors of the Foundling Hospital are determined to prosecute, to the utmost rigour of the Law, any Person who shall appear to have offended against the foregoing Clause, or shall in any way be concerned, either in forging or counterfeiting any such Certificate, or making use of the same, knowing it to be forged.

By Order,

A. BAILIE, Register.

APPENDIX, No. VII.

Foundling Hospital, Dublin, 29th September, 1814.

SIR,

I AM directed by the Governors of the Foundling Hospital to forward to you a Copy of an Act of Parliament, passed in the last Session, and of certain Orders founded thereon, and made by the Governors, at a Board, holden by Special Summons, on the 15th September last.

The object of the foregoing Orders is to check improper admissions, and diminish mortality among the Infants.

It appears by the Registry, that a great increase of mortality among the Infants has constantly taken place in the Winter and Spring Months, which is to be ascribed to various causes: the difficulty of obtaining Wet Nurses to take them to the Country at that season, abuses in the carriage, and deficiency of clothing; but chiefly to the bare circumstance of removal, and separation from their Parents, at that inclement period of the year. The operation of the last mentioned cause has appeared, by examination on oath before the Governors, to be very considerable, and is obviously incapable of being removed, or even palliated by Regulation.

After much deliberation, the suspension of admissions (except from the immediate neighbourhood of the Hospital), during the Winter and Spring Months, appeared to be the only remedy; and a Statement to that effect having been laid before his Majesty's Government, the Act above referred to was brought in and passed.

Three Months Notice of the commencement of the period of suspension being thereby required, the first of February, 1815, appeared to be the earliest day the Governors could, with propriety, fix on for that purpose; and though they are empowered to extend the period of suspension to six Months in the year, it was deemed expedient to confine it, in the first instance, to a more limited period.

The efficacy of this measure, as a remedy for the evil complained of, must obviously depend on the co-operation of the resident Clergy, Magistrates, Church-wardens, and others, who are so humane as to superintend the transmission of deserted Children to Dublin. The object of the Governors, in this Address, is earnestly to solicit that co-operation, and to impress on their minds, and, through their influence, diffuse through their respective neighbourhoods, a conviction, “ That the humane intention of preserving human life is inevitably frustrated, in a great number of cases, by the transmission of Infants from distant quarters during the Winter and Spring Months, insomuch, that if so destructive a source of mortality shall not be corrected, by the due enforcement of the accompanying Regulations, it may well be doubted, whether the Institution is of any benefit to the Public, in the article of preserving human life.”

By Order,

A. BAILIE, Register.

APPENDIX, No. VIII.

Extract from an Act of 54th George III. Cap. 128. to amend the several Acts for regulating the Foundling Hospital, in Dublin.

BE it enacted, “ That from and after the passing of this Act, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Governors of the said Hospital, or any three or more of them, from time to time to make Orders for suspending and to suspend the Admission of Infants into the said Hospital for any space or period of time not exceeding six Months in the whole in any one year, and also to make Orders for refusing and to refuse admitting any Infant into the said Hospital at any time, unless the person by whom such Infant is brought for Admission shall produce to some Officer of the said Hospital, to be nominated or appointed for that purpose, a Certificate signed by the Minister and Church-wardens of the Parish from which such Infant is sent, setting forth, that the said Minister and Church-wardens have made diligent inquiry respecting the birth and parentage of such Child, and that they have not been able to discover the Parents of such Child, or either of them, or that the Parents or Parent of such Child is not in circumstances sufficient to maintain such Child, as the case may be; any thing in the said recited Acts, or in any other Act or Acts, or any law, usage, or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

“ II. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That the Governors of the said Hospital shall, previous to the periods of suspending the Admission of Children as aforesaid, cause public notice of the Order for such suspension, and of the commencement and continuance of the duration of such suspension, to be given by printed advertisements or hand-bills for the space of three Months previous to the

commencement of such suspension, and shall cause such printed hand-bills to be posted on the gates and in other conspicuous places in and about the said Hospital, and shall also cause such advertisements or hand-bills to be distributed among the Clergy and Church-wardens of the several Parishes, and among the Magistrates of the several Counties in Ireland.

“ And be it further enacted, That if any person shall forge or counterfeit any Certificate of any Minister or Church-warden required by this Act, or any paper purporting to be such Certificate, or shall forge or counterfeit the name or hand-writing of any person or persons required to subscribe any such Certificate, the offender being thereof convicted according to Law, either at any Assizes or at any General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the county, city, town, or place where such offence shall be committed, shall be imprisoned for any term not less than two years, as the Court before whom such person was convicted shall order and direct.”

APPENDIX, No. IX.

Foundling Hospital, Dublin, 15th June, 1815.

SIR,

I AM directed by the Governors of the Foundling Hospital, to forward to you a Copy of certain Orders, founded on an Act of Parliament passed in the last Session.

The object of the foregoing Orders is to check improper admissions, and diminish mortality among the Infants.

It appears by the Registry, that a great increase of mortality among the Infants has constantly taken place in the Winter and Spring Months, which is to be ascribed to various causes—but chiefly to the bare circumstance of removal, and separation from their Parents, at that inclement period of the year. The operation of this cause has appeared, by examination on oath before the Governors, to be very considerable, and is obviously incapable of being removed, or even palliated by Regulation.

After much deliberation, the suspension of admissions (except from the County of the City of Dublin), during the Winter and Spring Months, appeared to be the only remedy; and a statement to that effect having been laid before His Majesty's Government, the Act above referred to was brought in and passed.

Three Months' Notice of the commencement of the period of suspension being thereby required, the First of February, 1815, was the earliest day the Governors could fix on for that purpose; and though they were empowered to extend the period of suspension to six Months in the year, it was deemed expedient to confine it, in the first instance, to the limited period of two Months only. The Hospital was accordingly closed against all admissions from the Country, from the First of February to the First of April, 1815; and the extent of the evil, as well as the beneficial effects in the preservation of Infant life, even during this first short experiment, will appear from an inspection of the following Table of Deaths and Admissions for the four first Months of the last six years.

	YEAR 1810.		YEAR 1811.		YEAR 1812.		YEAR 1813.		YEAR 1814.		YEAR 1815.	
	Total Infants admitted.	Total died in Nursery.	Total Infants admitted.	Total died in Nursery.	Total Infants admitted.	Total died in Nursery.	Total Infants admitted.	Total died in Nursery.	Total Infants admitted.	Total died in Nursery.	Total Infants admitted.	Total died in Nursery.
January	190	46	185	92	234	94	201	96	164	106	159	67
February	184	58	198	116	238	98	200	101	194	105	50	6
March	249	96	221	88	250	128	253	136	236	96	65	7
April	229	84	259	141	289	107	196	85	224	99	287	31

* The Governors are happy to state, that since the 1st January, 1815, few or none of the healthy Infants have been kept in the Nursery beyond a few days subsequent to admission; as, during the whole of the above period, there always has been a sufficient number of Country Nurses applying to take them out.

The Governors, encouraged by the success of this first application of the measure, have resolved to extend the period of Suspension in the ensuing year to three Months, commencing the 1st January, 1816, of which intention they have already given general Notice, by Hand-bills circulated through the several Counties of Ireland.

The efficacy of this measure, as a remedy for the evil complained of, must depend on the co-operation of the resident Clergy, Magistrates, Church-wardens, and others, who are so humane as to superintend the transmission of deserted Children to Dublin. The object of the Governors, in this Address, is earnestly to solicit that co-operation, and to impress on their minds, and, through their influence, diffuse through their respective neighbourhoods, a conviction, “ That the humane intention of preserving human life
 “ is inevitably frustrated, in a great number of cases, by
 “ the transmission of Infants from distant quarters during
 “ the Winter and Spring Months, insomuch, that if so
 “ destructive a source of mortality shall not be corrected,
 “ by the due enforcement of the accompanying Regulations,
 “ it may well be doubted, whether the Institution is of
 “ any benefit to the Public, in the article of preserving
 “ human life.”

By Order,

A. BAILIE, Register.

APPENDIX, No. X.

NOTICE.

Foundling Hospital, Dublin, 11th May, 1815.

AN Act of Parliament, passed in the 54th Year of the Reign of his present Majesty, Chap. 128, entitled, “An Act to amend the several Acts for regulating the Foundling Hospital in Dublin,” having been taken into consideration—it is ordered by the Governors, That no Child whatever shall be received or admitted into this Hospital, at any period of the year, unless the person by whom such Infant is brought for Admission shall produce to the Porter of said Hospital a Certificate signed by the Minister and Church-wardens of the Parish from whence said Child was brought, setting forth, “that the said Minister and Church-wardens have made diligent inquiry respecting the birth and parentage of said Child, and that they have not been able to discover the Parents of such Child, or either of them; or, that the Parents or Parent of such Child is not in circumstances sufficient to maintain such Child.”

And it having appeared to the Governors, by examination on oath, and by inspection of the Registry, that a heavy mortality has been found to prevail in the Hospital in the winter and spring months, and that such mortality has been owing chiefly to the effects of carriage at that inclement season:

It is further ordered, in pursuance of the authority vested in them by the said Act of Parliament, that from and after the 1st day of January, 1816, until the 1st day of April, 1816, no Child whatever shall be received or admitted into this Hospital from any part of Ireland (except

the County of the City of Dublin, and the Liberties thereof); and the Porter is hereby required to attend to the execution of this and the foregoing order at his peril.

Third Clause of said Act--“ And be it further enacted,
 “ That if any person shall forge or counterfeit any Certi-
 “ ficate of any Minister or Church-warden, required by
 “ this Act, or any paper purporting to be such a Certi-
 “ ficate, or shall forge or counterfeit the name or hand-
 “ writing of any person or persons required to subscribe
 “ any such Certificate, the offender, being thereof con-
 “ victed according to Law, either at any Assizes, or at any
 “ General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace, for the
 “ County, City, Town, or Place, where such offence shall
 “ be committed, shall be imprisoned for any term, not less
 “ than two years, as the Court, before whom such person
 “ was convicted, shall order and direct.”

The Governors of the Foundling Hospital are determined to prosecute, to the utmost rigour of the Law, any person who shall appear to have offended against the foregoing Clause, or shall in any way be concerned, either in forging or counterfeiting any such Certificate, or making use of the same, knowing it to be forged.

By Order,

A. BAILIE, Register.

APPENDIX, No. XI.

Foundling Hospital, Dublin, 15th June, 1816.

SIR,

I AM directed by the Governors of the Foundling Hospital to forward to you a Copy of certain Orders, founded on an Act of Parliament passed in the 54th year of the Reign of his present Majesty.

The object of these Orders is to check improper admissions, and diminish mortality among the Infants.

It appears by the Registry, that a great increase of mortality among the Infants has constantly taken place in the Winter and Spring Months, which is to be ascribed to various causes—but chiefly to the bare circumstances of removal, and separation from their Parents, at that inclement period of the year. The operation of this cause has appeared, by examination on oath before the Governors, to be very considerable, and is obviously incapable of being removed, or even palliated by Regulation.

After much deliberation, the suspension of admissions (except from the County and City of Dublin), during the Winter and Spring Months, appeared to be the only remedy; and a statement to that effect having been laid before his Majesty's Government, the Act above referred to was brought in and passed.

Three Months' Notice of the commencement of the period of suspension being thereby required, the First of February, 1815, was the earliest day the Governors could fix on for that purpose; and though they were empowered to extend the period of suspension to six Months in the year, it was deemed expedient at first to limit it to two Months only. The Hospital was accordingly closed against all admissions from the Country, from the First of February to the First of April, 1815; and the extent of the evil, as well as the beneficial effects in the preservation of Infant life, even during the first short experiment, will appear from an inspection of the following Table of Deaths and Admissions for the four first Months of the last seven years.

	Year 1810.		Year 1811.		Year 1812.		Year 1813.		Year 1814.		Year 1815.		Year 1816.	
	Total Infants admit- ted.	Total died in Nur- sery.	Total Infants admit- ted.	Total died in Nur- sery.	Total Infants admit- ted.	Total died in Nur- sery.	Total Infants admit- ted.	Total died in Nur- sery.	Total Infants admit- ted.	Total died in Nur- sery.	Total Infants admit- ted.	Total died in Nur- sery.	Total Infants admit- ted.	Total died in Nur- sery.
January	190	46	185	92	234	94	201	96	164	106	159	67	54	6
February	184	58	198	116	238	98	200	101	194	105	50	6	55	2
March	249	96	221	88	250	128	253	156	256	96	65	7	58	10
April	229	84	259	141	289	107	196	85	224	99	287	31	302	26

Since the 1st January, 1815, few or none of the healthy Infants have been kept in the Nursery beyond a few days subsequent to admission ; as, from that period, there always has been a sufficient number of Country Nurses applying to take them out.

The Governors, encouraged by the success of the application of the above measure, have resolved to continue the suspension in the ensuing year for two Months, commencing from the First of January, 1817.

The efficacy of this measure, as a remedy for the evil complained of, must depend on the co-operation of the resident Clergy, Magistrates, Church-wardens, and others, who are so humane as to superintend the transmission of deserted Children to Dublin. The object of the Governors, in this Address, is earnestly to solicit that co-operation, and to impress on their minds, and through their influence diffuse through their respective neighbourhoods, a conviction, “ That the humane intention of preserving human
“ life is inevitably frustrated, in a great number of cases,
“ by the transmission of Infants from distant quarters du-
“ ring the Winter and Spring Months, insomuch, that
“ if so destructive a source of mortality shall not be cor-
“ rected, by the due enforcement of the accompanying
“ Regulations, it may well be doubted, whether the Insti-
“ tution is of any benefit to the Public, in the article of
“ preserving human life.”

By Order,

A. BAILIE, Register.

APPENDIX, No. XII.

NOTICE.

Foundling Hospital, Dublin, 15th June, 1816.

AN Act of Parliament, passed in the 54th Year of the Reign of his present Majesty, Chap. 128, entitled, “ An Act to amend the several Acts for regulating the Foundling Hospital in Dublin,” having been taken into consideration---it is ordered by the Governors, That no Child whatever shall be received or admitted into this Hospital, at any period of the year, unless the person by whom such Infant is brought for admission shall produce to the Porter of said Hospital a Certificate signed by the Minister and Church-wardens of the Parish from whence said Child was brought, setting forth, “ that the said Minister and Church-wardens have made diligent inquiry respecting the birth and parentage of said Child, and that they have not been able to discover the Parents of such Child, or either of them; or, that the Parents or Parent of such Child is not in circumstances sufficient to maintain such Child.”

And it having appeared to the Governors, by examination on oath, and by inspection of the Registry, that a heavy mortality has been found to prevail in the Hospital in the Winter and Spring Months, and that such mortality has been owing chiefly to the effects of carriage at that inclement season :

It is further ordered, in pursuance of the authority vested in them by the said Act of Parliament, that from and after the 1st day of January, 1817, until the 1st day of March, 1817, no Child whatever shall be received or admitted into this Hospital from any part of Ireland (except the County of the City of Dublin, and the Liberties thereof); and the Porter is hereby required to attend to the execution of this and the foregoing Order at his peril.

Third Clause of said Act—" And be it further enacted,
 " That if any person shall forge or counterfeit any Certi-
 " ficate of any Minister or Church-warden, required by
 " this Act, or any paper purporting to be such a Certifi-
 " cate, or shall forge or counterfeit the name or hand-
 " writing of any person or persons required to subscribe
 " any such Certificate, the offender, being thereof con-
 " victed according to Law, either at any Assizes, or at
 " any General or Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the
 " County, City, Town, or Place, where such offence shall
 " be committed, shall be imprisoned for any term, not less
 " than two years, as the Court, before whom such person
 " was convicted, shall order and direct."

The Governors of the Foundling Hospital are deter-
 mined to prosecute, to the utmost rigour of the Law, any
 person who shall appear to have offended against the fore-
 going Clause, or shall in any way be concerned, either in
 forging or counterfeiting any such Certificate, or making
 use of the same, knowing it to be forged,

By Order,

A. BAILIE, Register.

APPENDIX, No. XIII.

REPORT

FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE
HOUSE OF COMMONS,

APPOINTED TO INQUIRE INTO THE MANAGEMENT AND STATE OF THE

FOUNDLING HOSPITAL,

MAY, 1797.

MR. SPEAKER,

THE Committee appointed to inquire into the management and state of the Foundling Hospital having met according to order, and examined several witnesses in the most solemn manner touching the subject matter of the said inquiry, have directed me to report as follows :

Mr. A. BAILIE, Register to the Foundling Hospital, being sworn and examined,

Says he takes down the minutes of the Board; he keeps accounts of the number of Children admitted, which he takes from the Matron's returns; and he is also to keep an account of the Children on the Foundling side, or the grown Children of the Hospital.

Question. Who keeps the account of the number of Children admitted at the door?

Answer. I believe they are brought by the porter or servant at the gate to the Matron, who returns an account of them to me.

Question. How many Children have been admitted in the last quarter ending at Lady-day, 1797?

Answer. Five hundred and forty, as per returns.

Question. How many have died in the Hospital in that period?

Answer. Four hundred and fifty-four.

Question. How many Children were in the Infant Infirmary in the beginning of that quarter, namely, on 26th December last?

Answer. Twenty.

Question. What number have been admitted, and have died, since the 25th day of March last?

Answer. From the 25th of March to the 13th April instant there were one hundred and sixteen admitted, and one hundred and twelve died.

Question. Do you know the reason of this extraordinary mortality in this period?

Answer. I cannot give any reason for it; but have heard from the Matron that the causes were the Nurses not coming up for the Children, and the food not being sufficiently nourishing.

Question. Was any particular Report of these deaths made to the Governors?

Answer. There was at the first Board after the 25th of March, 1797.

Question. Was there any made in the intermediate time, that is, between 25th December and 25th March last?

Answer. I believe not.

Question. What day was the Report made to the Governors?

Answer. The 4th of April instant.

Question. How many Infants have died in the Hospital in the quarter ending 25th December last?

Answer. Two hundred and seventy-three.

Question. There appears by the quarterly printed account sent to the Governors for the quarter ending 25th December, 1796, to have died in the house only three Children; by the answer given as above, your evidence is, that two hundred and seventy-three have died in that period—how do you reconcile the difference?

Answer. Two hundred and seventy-three are the number of Infants who have died in the Hospital; the other three is the number of those who have died above eight years old.

Question. Are the Children that are received daily put into the quarterly printed Return?

Answer. They are not, but I keep an account of them in my books.

Question. Do you keep an account of the number who die in the house?

Answer. I do.

Question. Did you mean to conceal any thing from the Governors when you made out the quarterly Return?

Answer. I did not.

Question. How comes it that no notice is taken in the printed account sent to the Governors, for their information of the state of the charity, of the two hundred and seventy-three Infants who have died in the Hospital in that quarter?

Answer. Because it was not in the form that was handed down to me.

Question. How long have you been in office?

Answer. I was appointed coadjutor with my father 22d May, 1790, and elected 7th April, 1792.

Question. In that period have you ever made any return in the quarterly accounts to the Governors of these deaths?

Answer. I have not.

[Produces the Report of the Sub-Committee appointed to inspect the Nursery and Infirmary, on the Infant side of the Hospital.]

Question. Had the Report of the Sub-Committee, when produced to the sitting Committee, the postscript now annexed to it?

Answer. It had not at the time I first read it.

Question. Am I to understand that the Committee received the Report, and heard it read without the postscript?

Answer. They heard it read without the postscript.

Question. How came the postscript to be added to it?

Answer. The Committee re-considered the Report, and added that postscript to it.

Question. Was it not after some of the sitting Committee had retired that the amendment was added to it?

Answer. It was.

Question. What was the cause for adding this amendment to it?

Answer. It was their considering the Report against the medical men unmerited.

Question. Were the Medical Gentlemen present when that Sub-Committee's Report was read to the sitting Committee, and before some of the sitting Committee withdrew from it?

Answer. The Physician and Surgeon were not present, but cannot say whether the Apothecary was present before some of the sitting Committee withdrew.

Question. Was there any examination of the Surgeon or Physician before the postscript was added to the Report?

Answer. There was, before those who remained of the sitting Committee.

Question. Was that examination taken down in writing?

Answer. There was not any examination taken down by me. The Apothecary resides in the Hospital.

Question. How many Governors did the sitting Committee consist of?

Answer. I believe fifteen.

Question. Were the majority of that Meeting present when the postscript was added to it?

Answer. I believe the majority was not present.

Question. In the return you have given in of the Children brought from the country, how do you know they were brought from thence?

Answer. By entries of the notes brought with those Children?

Question. Do those notes specify the places from whence they came?

Answer. They do in general.

Question. Is there any instance of the Physician and Surgeon making any complaint of the Apothecary?

Answer. I never remember any.

Mrs. ALICE HUNT, sworn.

Question. Can you give any reason why there is such a number of deaths in the Hospital in the last quarter?

Answer. Many have died for the want of Nurses; has heard that the Nurses were afraid that they would not be paid on account of the landing of the French, and therefore would not come up.

Question. Are the Children that came up from the country in as bad and unhealthy a condition as when you gave your examination before a Committee in the years 1791 and 1792?

Answer. They are as bad now ; they cannot be worse. In winter the Children are brought in in a worse condition than in summer.

Question. Are those that were brought in in the last winter worse than those who were brought to the House in the preceding year ?

Answer. They are much in the same condition as those of the former year.

Question. What attendance does the Physician give the Infant Children in the Infirmary ?

Answer. The Physician does not attend the Infant Children at all, the Surgeon does that duty ; says that Mr. Woodrooffe the Surgeon, or some person for him, attends regularly twice a week.

Question. Does the Apothecary attend the Infant Nursery ?

Answer. The Apothecary does not give any regular attendance there ; the Apothecary does not consider it his duty to prescribe for the Children ; he is only to make up the Medicines.

Question. Do you know what proportion of Children are put into the cradle, or brought by night to the Hospital ?

Answer. Very few are put in by night, not so often as one in a fortnight.

Question. Are the Children that are brought to the Hospital in the day time, known from whence they are brought, or to whom they belong ?

Answer. In general Country Children have Certificates from the Minister or Church-Wardens of the Parish they are brought from.

Question. Are the Children that come from the country more healthy than those who are brought without Certificates ?

Answer. The greater distance they are brought from, the worse condition they are in. The Children that are brought without Certificates I suppose are town Children, or are brought from the neighbourhood of Dublin. Five Children were brought to the Hospital this day, four of which were so unhealthy that the Surgeon sent them to the Infirmary ; four of them had Certificates.

Question. Whether you think, from the poorness of the diet of the Children, if they had better nourishment, in your opinion it would have saved the lives of any?

Answer. I believe it would.

Question. Supposing the Children could not get the Nurses, what is the substitute you would have given?

Answer. I would have given a little wine or broth; I do not mean that as the common food, but only when the Children come in in a weak state.

Question. Did you ever state this to the Physician or Surgeon?

Answer. I did.

Question. Did they approve of it?

Answer. The Physician neither approved nor disapproved of it?

Question. Did you mention it to the Governors?

Answer. I did individually to those who visited the Hospital, and to a former Committee of this House, but never to the Board of Governors.

WILLIAM KELLET, *Porter to the Foundling Hospital,*
sworn.

Says he receives the Children, and gives a receipt for them; his wife brings them up to the Matron; she is paid for it; he attends the burying of Children; there are three regular days in the week for the burying of the Children; Monday, Wednesday and Friday are the burying days; yesterday four Children were brought to the Hospital, they all appeared very unhealthy; one of them was from Roscrea, and in such a wretched state that it appeared more like a liver than any human thing. They bury the Children immediately after prayers between seven and eight o'clock in the morning. If a Child dies on a Monday, after the burying hour, it is kept till the next burying day, and he never knew an instance of any burying but on the days appointed for the purpose.

Question. Where is the Child kept after its death till the burying day?

Answer. In a small house inside the gate of the burying-ground.

Question. Who brings the Children to this house?

Answer. The Nurses of the Infirmary.

Question. What is the greatest number of Children you ever knew to be buried at one time?

Answer. To the best of my recollection, thirteen. Says there is a bye-law, that if any Child should die of an infectious disorder it should be buried immediately: has attended those burials about two years; the Children who die in the house are buried without coffins.

ELIZABETH KELLET, *sworn.*

Says her employment is to assist the porter; she is his wife, and she receives the Children at the gate, and brings them to Mrs. Doyle, the head Nurse; she carried them sometimes to the Matron, but oftener to Mrs. Doyle. Mrs. Hunt is very seldom out of the house; she cannot say whether the Children that have been brought into the house, in the last quarter, were more healthy than those brought in in the preceding year.

Mrs. MARY DOYLE, *sworn.*

Question. What is your employment?

Answer. I am counted head Nurse. I go down to the hall, and receive the Children from the porter or his wife.

Question. Who is the Matron?

Answer. Mrs. Hunt.

Question. Who is the deputy Matron?

Answer. Miss Alice Hunt, Mrs. Hunt's daughter.

Question. How long are you in the employment?

Answer. About six years.

Mrs. Hunt gives every attention in her power to the duties of her situation; she lives on the same floor with the Children, and if she hears the cries of any of them, she goes out immediately to assist them. The daughter attends in the absence of her mother; says that the Children who came up from the country are in general in a very bad state of health; sometimes the Children are stript on the road by the person who brings them up; there is a note sent with the Children, specifying the clothes sent with the Child.

Question. Were the Children sent up in the last quarter more or less healthy, than those in the former quarters?

Answer. They were always the same in the last quarter; the Children were stript and more unhealthy.

Question. Does the Physician attend regularly at the Hospital?

Answer. He does Mondays and Fridays.

Question. Mention the person whom you call the Physician?

Answer. Surgeon Woodrooffe.

Question. Is there no other Physician attends the Hospital but Surgeon Woodrooffe?

Answer. None—except him or some person he sends, who attends for him.

Question. Does Surgeon Woodrooffe or some person for him regularly attend every Monday and Friday?

Answer. In general they attend; they might have missed some day.

Question. Is the Surgeon sent for on any other days but the attending days?

Answer. He is not to the Infant side of the house; he has nothing to say to any other part of the house.

Question. How often does the Apothecary attend the Infant side of the house?

Answer. Never but when sent for; he lives in the Hospital.

Question. Do you know Doctor Harvey? how often does he attend?

Answer. I never saw him within side of the Infant Nursery.

Question. How long have you attended the nursery?

Answer. Six years last June.

Question. Do you know any thing of the state of the Children who are sent into the Infirmary up stairs?

Answer. The Children are stript, and other clothes put on them when they are sent to the Infirmary.

Question. Before a Child is sent to the Infirmary, who makes the report of the state of the Child?

Answer. Surgeon Woodrooffe, and sometimes the Matron if she sees it very bad.

Question. Did you ever know Surgeon Woodrooffe or any other person go to the Infirmary after the Children are sent there?

Answer. I do not know. I do not attend that department.

Question. Do any Children ever return after they have been sent to that Infirmary?

Answer. Never in any one instance.

PHILIP WOODROOFFE, *Esq. sworn.*

Question. Can you account for the extraordinary number of Children who have died more than usual in the last quarter?

Answer. It being the severest season, and consequently the greater number have died.

Question. Compared with the corresponding quarter of former years, how does it stand?

Answer. More diseased Children I think were taken in in the last quarter.

Question. By diseased Children, do you mean venereal Children?

Answer. I do.

Question. Do you examine any other Children, not afflicted with the venereal disease?

Answer. I do, if any other Surgical complaint occurs.

Question. Do you confine yourself to Surgical complaints alone?

Answer. I do—nothing else comes within my department.

Question. Whose department do the other disorders come under?

Answer. I think the Medical.

Question. Who is the Physician?

Answer. Doctor Harvey.

Question. Has he the care of the Infant Nursery?

Answer. He attends whenever he is sent for: believes the Apothecary is in the way to answer any other call in his absence.

Question. Do you know Doctor Harvey's salary?

Answer. Believes eighty pounds per annum: understands there were some additional fees which were struck off by the Imprest Commissioners; believes it was previous to the Session before last.

Question. Was not that a quarterly allowance of twenty pounds per quarter?

Answer. No; it was an additional fee, to make up his salary one hundred guineas annually.

Question. Were you ever called on to go into the Infant Infirmary?

Answer. Yes, very often.

Question. What situation did you find the Children in, as to clothing and care?

Answer. As to clothing, I think that the clothing is as warm as necessary; but I have found fault with the Children being crowded in the cradles: the Children were kept as cleanly as they possibly could.

Question. Do you know of any medicines being administered to these Children?

Answer. Yes, constantly; the place was never without medicine by my direction, and the apothecary informed me that he sent them, and the Nurse told me she gave them.

Nothing can recover venereal diseased Children but breast milk impregnated with mercury, which cannot be got, as no Nurse will suffer herself to be salivated for the purpose; and even if the Child recovered, it would be a burden to the State.

Question. Is the food sufficient for the Children?

Answer. I always understood it was.

Question. What effect has the establishment of the Lock Hospital in Dublin had upon the state of the Children admitted into the Foundling Hospital.

Answer. Not any as yet, for the majority of the venereal diseased Children comes from the country parts.

CATHERINE MAQUEAN, *sworn.*

Question. What is your business in the Foundling Hospital?

Answer. I am Nurse over the Sick Infirmary.

Question. How long have you been in that employment?

Answer. Near seven years.

Question. Are the Children brought to you this year in better or worse health than usual?

Answer. They are mostly alike.

Question. What sort of clothing have you for those in the Infirmary?

Answer. The clothing that the Children have on when they are brought into the house is washed and sent up to the Infirmary.

Question. What sort of bedding and covering have these Children in the Infirmary.

Answer. Straw in their cradles, and the old blankets that are cast, and are not so decent for the Nursery, are sent up to the Infirmary.

Question. Have you known any Children to recover that have been sent to the Infirmary?

Answer. I have known two Children to have been recovered; afterwards they were sent out to nurse, but died from the weak state they were sent out in.

Question. How comes it that it is necessary to put the old clothing on the Infants that come into the Infirmary?

Answer. The Children are brought up in the Nursery clothes when they come to the Infirmary; afterwards they are stripped by the Nurse of that clothing, which is carried back to the Nursery, and the old clothes are then put on them.

Question. How many are with you that have the care of the Infirmary?

Answer. Only one woman and me.

Question. Do you know any thing of the attendance of the Physician?

Answer. Surgeon Woodrooffe attends; never saw Dr. Harvey at my side of the house; I have seen the Apothecary attend, but very seldom.

Question. Have you seen the Apothecary visit the Infirmary once in a week?

Answer. No.

Question. Have you seen the Apothecary visit it once in a month?

Answer. No.

Question. What medicines do you give the Children in the Infant Infirmary?

Answer. There are medicines which come from the Apothecary; there is a bottle which Mr. Woodrooffe calls a medicine bottle.

Question. Is that bottle administered to all the Children in that Infirmary?

Answer. Yes, except the Children in a dying state; I suppose it a composing draught, for the Children were easy after taking it for an hour or two.

Question. When the Surgeon calls on you, does he make any inquiry as to the effect that bottle has had upon the Children?

Answer. The Surgeon asked me if I gave the bottle, but not as to the effect it had on them.

Mr. SWEENEY, sworn.

Question. What is your office?

Answer. I am Treasurer to the Foundling Hospital.

Question. Do you know the Physician of the Foundling Hospital, and what is his name?

Answer. I do; his name is Doctor Harvey.

Question. Do you reside in the Hospital?

Answer. I do live in the Hospital.

Question. Do you see the Physician, Doctor Harvey, in the yards of the Hospital very often?

Answer. There are two stated days for his attendance, Mondays and Fridays.

Question. Has Doctor Harvey visited the Hospital once a week?

Answer. He has.

Question. Do you believe that Doctor Harvey has attended the Infant Infirmary?

Answer. I am told he has not attended.

Question. Do you think he ought or ought not to have attended it?

Answer. My opinion is, that he ought to have attended the Infant Infirmary. I often turned it in my thoughts, and I supposed it his duty to attend the Infant Children.

Question. Did you ever state to Doctor Harvey that you thought he ought to have attended?

Answer. I never did.

Reverend DOCTOR MURRAY, sworn.

Question. Was not you one of the Sub-Committee to inspect into the Infant Nursery, and who made a Report on the 7th April instant?

Answer. I was one of the Sub-Committee who offered to go to the Hospital, and afterwards went. I with four other gentlemen went to the house, and made an inquiry there.

(Report shewn to the witness.)

Question. Is that the Report you made?

Answer. It is the Report. Sir John Trail drew up the report. I was Chairman, but did not see the Report till three other gentlemen had signed it.

Question. It appearing in this Report that no human effort was ever made use of to save the lives of the Children, except administering the common food of milk, bread and common water, I want to know how or where the Committee got that information?

Answer. From the Matron.

Question. As to the treatment of the Children, did you get that information from the Matron?

Answer. I did.

Question. Did it appear to you that no care or exertion, through the Physician, Surgeon or Apothecary, to recover them was ever made?

Answer. I think it did. The Physician thought from the situation of the venereal diseased Children that any exertion to recover them was unnecessary.

Question. Did it also appear that no medical assistance or advice was ever given to recover the Children?

Answer. I think so, for those that were infected.

Question. Did you make any inquiry as to the Apothecary's attendance on that inquiry which produced the Report?

Answer. We did; I think his attendance was seldom, because his powers were very much circumscribed by his superiors.

Question. Who are the Superiors who circumscribed the Apothecary?

Answer. Believes Doctor Harvey and Surgeon Woodroffe.

Question. Did you inquire whether any medicines were administered to the Children in the Infant Infirmary?

Answer. I understood there was not any. Very near one half of the Children sent to the Infirmary were afflicted with venereal complaints.

Question. Who did you get that information from ?

Answer. I got it from the Matron and the Nurses.

Question. Did you examine the Apothecary ?

Answer. I did. He gave the same information as the Matron, and further, that he could not administer medicines without orders from the Surgeon, and that no medicines were ordered.

Sir JOHN TRAIL, sworn.

Question. Did it appear to you that any medicines were administered to the Children on their being sent to the Infant Infirmary ?

Answer. By the information of the Matron there was no medical assistance or extraordinary sustenance given either in the Nursery or Infant Infirmary to ailing Children. While the Matron gave this information, the Treasurer and Register were both present.

Question. Did you inquire whether Doctor Harvey the Physician, Mr. Woodrooffe the Surgeon, and Mr. Shaughnessy the Apothecary, visited the Infant Infirmary ?

Answer. On the first inquiry I did not discriminate the gentlemen, but asked was there any medical assistance given generally.

Question. Did you inquire whether any medicines were brought into the Infant Nursery or Infirmary ?

Answer. The Matron said there was none.

Question. Did you make any inquiry whether the Apothecary visited the Children ?

Answer. The answer given to me was, that the Apothecary had an Infirmary of his own to attend to.

Question. When you examined the Children in the Infant Infirmary, had they clothing sufficiently warm on them ?

Answer. In my opinion they had not, and what there was appeared to be filthy and dirty; the blankets that were on them were dirty, and the cradles where the Children lay, according to the information received from the Nurses, were swarming with bugs.

Question. Was there any difference of opinion between the gentlemen who composed the Sub-Committee and you?

Answer. There was not; every gentleman was unanimous as to the wretched state of the Infants.

Question. Upon what grounds has the Sub-Committee stated in their Report that the Children received in the last quarter were as healthy as those received at any other time?

Answer. From the Porter at the gate, and it was generally allowed to be so by all the officers of the house.

Question. Did you see any Children that were brought in within the last fortnight?

Answer. I did.

Question. In what situation did they appear?

Answer. They were as fine Children as I ever saw.

Question. Had you any conversation with the Apothecary relative to his attendance at the Infant Nursery?

Answer. Yes; he informed the gentlemen that he always attended when sent for to the Infant Infirmary, but that he did not consider it in his department.

Question. Did you ever inquire whether any medicines were sent to the Infirmary?

Answer. He, the Apothecary, said, that he could not prescribe a dose of physic without the prescription of the Physician, as the bye-law specified.

Question. Did you examine the Physician?

Answer. Yes; he said he always attended when sent for—he did not consider the Infant Infirmary as in his department. This last question was put to Dr. Harvey at a subsequent period.

Question. Did it appear to you that Surgeon Woodrooffe attended regularly?

Answer. When I first examined them, the Matron said that there was no medical assistance given at all, but at the next meeting of the Committee, at the re-examination, after the business had made some noise, she prevaricated, and did acknowledge that Surgeon Woodrooffe attended twice or thrice a week, or some person for him, and that the Apothecary constantly attended.

JAMES SHAUGHNISSY, *sworn*.

Question. What is your employment ?

Answer. I am Apothecary to the Foundling Hospital

Question. Being shewn a return signed by him of the number of diseased Children in the Infant Infirmary, he was asked, what disorders were meant by diseased ?

Answer. According to the Surgeon's Report, they were venereal.

Question. Are the number one thousand nine hundred and seventy-five in the Infant Infirmary, stated in the said Return as diseased, the whole of the sick Children that were in the Infirmary ?

Answer. Yes.

Question. Are there two Infirmaries for the Infant Children in the Hospital, or are they all sent to the same room ?

Answer. There is but that one room.

Question. Am I to infer from thence that there are in that Infirmary no Children sick of any other complaint ?

Answer. Not that I know of.

Question. Are you sure that those Children are, or were, all afflicted with that disorder ?

Answer. They were returned so to me by the Surgeon.

Question. Whether you know what effect the Lock Hospital in Townshend-street has had in respect to the preventing the ravages of that disorder ?

Answer. I have heard it said that it has had a great effect in preventing it in Dublin, but it has not prevented it in the country.

Question. Do all the Children that are sent to the Infant Infirmary go there on the Report of the Surgeon ?

Answer. The visiting days of the Surgeon are twice a week, sometimes three times; in the mean time, if Children supposed to be very much diseased should come into the Nursery, and if I find them in a very bad state, I send them up to the Infirmary, to prevent their being fed with other Children.

Question. Is the Surgeon's Report verbal or written of the state of the Children to the Matron ?

Answer. The method is, the Surgeon visits the Foundling Nursery, and each Child has a badge about its neck, the number of which is returned to me as a certificate of the Child's being infected with the venereal disease, and sent to the Infant Infirmary, where none are admitted but such as are supposed to be infected with the venereal disease.

Question. How long have you been Apothecary to the Hospital?

Answer. Between eight and nine years.

Question. During that time have you known any Child sent from the Infant Nursery to any other Infirmary?

Answer. I do not.

Question. Am I then to understand, that during that time no Child in the Infant Nursery was so ill of any other complaint as to require being sent to any other Infirmary but those who were affected with the venereal disease?

Answer. I know of no other Infirmary for Infant Children.

Question. State to the Committee how many diseased Children have been admitted into the Infants' Infirmary in the last six years ending 24th June.

Answer. I cannot, without examining my books.

[Produced a return of the diseased Children in the Infirmary for six years, amounting to five thousand two hundred and sixteen.]

Question. Does the return you have now made, include all the diseased Children?

Answer. I cannot tell.

Question. Have you attended the Infant Nursery once a week?

Answer. No.

Question. Have you attended it once a month?

Answer. No.

Question. Have you visited it once a quarter?

Answer. I have not.

Question. Have you administered medicines in the Nursery?

Answer. I have not. Medicines were sent there by me to the Matron, who administered them at her discretion.

Question. What authority have you for knowing when the Children die in the Infant Infirmary?

Answer. I have no authority for knowing the Children had died but from the return of the Matron.

Question. How came you to sign the return, laid by you before the Committee, of those deaths?

Answer. I did not know whether the Matron or me was the proper officer to make that return.

Question. Five thousand two hundred and sixteen Children are said to have died in the Infant Infirmary of the venereal disease in the last six years; have any other Children been admitted in that Hospital, afflicted with any other illness or complaint?

Answer. I cannot recollect.

Question. Have there been admitted in that Infant Infirmary, no Children except those who have been afflicted with the venereal disease?

Answer. None, that I know of.

Question. Have the Infant Children in that Hospital no other complaints or no other sickness but the venereal disorder?

Answer. The answer to that would come better from the persons who attend the Infant Nursery.

Question. Whose business is it to give an answer with respect to the health of the Children in the Infant department?

Answer. I believe the Matron.

Question. Are there any medicines whatever administered to the Children in the Infant Infirmary, besides that bottle which appears to be handed round indiscriminately to all?

Answer. There has not.

Question. Is there any other room or place where Children are sent to, that are sick, except to the Infirmary?

Answer. There is not.

SAMUEL CROKER KING, *Esq.*

Surgeon to Steevens's Hospital, sworn.

Question. What are the duties of the Apothecary in Steevens's Hospital?

Answer. I have wrote them down, which I beg leave to lay before the Committee.

Duty of the Apothecary of Steevens's Hospital.

To prepare and compound the medicines prescribed by the Physicians and Surgeons, to deliver them to the Nurses, with directions how they are to be administered to the patients; to prepare a list of such medicaments as from time to time are wanting; to be accountable to the visitors for the medicines committed to his charge; to visit all the wards at least once every day; to see that the medicines are properly distributed to the patients; to have constant attention that they take them regularly, and to make report, in case of neglect, to the Physicians or Surgeons; to make up what compound medicines are wanted, particularly all masses of pills, ointments, and plaisters; to make out the diet papers every day; to keep the shop open every day until one o'clock; to reside constantly, and especially to sleep in the Hospital every night.

DOCTOR HARVEY, *sworn.*

Says he never visited the Infant side of the house unless when sent for; he did not consider it as belonging to his duty to visit it, but never failed to go when sent for. Says the former Matrons used to send for him to visit the Infant Children, but does not recollect that he had been sent for by the present Matron, except to visit her own Children; believes that the present Matron has had the appointment about seven years.

Question. Whether you know it is the duty of any medical person to attend the Children in the Infant Nursery?

Answer. I conceive it to be the duty of the Apothecary, and if he sees any occasion to call on me, that it is his duty to do so.

And your Committee came to the following Resolutions :

1. Resolved, that it is the opinion of this Committee, that the Foundling Hospital of the City of Dublin under its present establishment ought to be reformed.

2. Resolved, that it appears to this Committee, that of five hundred and forty Children received into the Foundling Hospital in the quarter ending the 25th March 1797, four hundred and fifty-four have died.

3. Resolved, that it appears to this Committee, that from the 25th of March to the 13th of April last (being nineteen days) one hundred and sixteen Children were admitted, and that one hundred and twelve have died.

4. Resolved, that it appears to this Committee, that in the six years ending the 24th of June 1796, there were admitted into the Foundling Hospital twelve thousand seven hundred and eighty-six Children, and there died in the Infant side of the house in the same period seven thousand eight hundred and seven Infants, and in the country one thousand nine hundred and ninety-seven Children, and that in that time there appears to have been beside two thousand eight hundred and forty-seven Children unaccounted for.

5. Resolved, that it appears to this Committee, that in the same period of six years ending the 24th of June last, five thousand two hundred and sixteen Children have been sent into the Infant Infirmary of that Hospital, and that of these, three only were ever brought out alive.

6. Resolved, that it appears to this Committee, that of the diseased Infants the greater number are brought from the distant parts of the kingdom, that they are much abused on the road, and are sometimes brought to the Hospital in a condition too shocking to relate.

7. Resolved, that it appears to this Committee, that during the said period no medicine of any kind was ever administered in the Nursery to these Infants, or in the Infant Infirmary, except a bottle called the composing bottle, which is administered by the Nurses indiscriminately to all alike.

8. Resolved, that it appears to this Committee, that there were admitted into the Foundling Hospital in the six years ending 24th June 1790, twelve thousand five hundred and sixty-six Children, and that there died in that time three thousand eight hundred and fifty-six, and that in the six years following (from the 24th June 1790 to 24th June 1796) there were admitted into the Hospital

twelve thousand seven hundred and eighty-six Children, and that there died in that time seven thousand eight hundred and seven.

9. Resolved, that it appears to this Committee, that in the said six years, the Physician to the Foundling Hospital, Dr. William Harvey, never visited that side where those Infant Children lay, and that by the bye-laws, the Physician is required to visit the Hospital every Monday and Friday, and at all times when sent for.

10. Resolved, that it appears to this Committee, that by the said bye-laws it was the duty of the Surgeon to visit the Hospital regularly every day, and that Mr. Philip Woodrooffe, the Surgeon, attended or caused attendance to be given at the said Hospital twice a week, and sometimes three times, and not oftener, and that he only prescribed in surgical cases.

11. Resolved, that it appears to this Committee, that the Apothecary to the Hospital, Mr. James Shaughnessy, did not visit the Infant Infirmary so often as once a quarter, sometimes not once a year, although it was his duty to attend every day, and that he has his residence in the Hospital.

12. Resolved, that it is the opinion of this Committee, that the Physician, Surgeon and Apothecary of this Hospital, ought to be immediately removed.

13. Resolved, that it is the opinion of this Committee, that the Foundling Hospital of the city of Dublin, under its present establishment, ought to be abolished.

An Account of the Number of Children admitted into the Foundling Hospital, and of such as have died, have been apprenticed, or otherwise disposed of, and of such as they have not been able to account for, during the six Years ending the 24th June 1796, distinguishing each Year.

	<i>Admitted.</i>	<i>Died in Nursery.</i>	<i>Died in the Country.</i>	<i>Died of the Family.*</i>	<i>Total Deaths.</i>	<i>Struck off the Books.</i>	<i>Apprenticed.</i>	<i>Eloped.</i>	<i>Given to Parents.</i>
For the Years ending the 24th June 1791	2192	1205	404	15	1622	676	100	20	41
1792	1998	1281	285	68	1652	658	196	27	44
1793	2205	1287	395	42	1724	448	266	8	55
1794	2255	1285	415	26	1724	545	178	8	44
1795	2101	1470	280	47	1797	309	218	11	50
1796	2037	1279	222	56	1557	411	190	12	42
	12786	7807	1997	252	10056	2847	1148	86	254
For the Quarter ending the 29th September 1796	527	535	90	—	425	—	107	5	15
Ditto 25th December 1796 - - -	387	275	81	5	557	—	71	2	7
Ditto 25th March 1797 - - -	540	454	59	4	517	—	27	—	15
	1454	1060	250	7	1297		205	5	35

Died in the Nursery in the six Years ending 24th June 1796 - 7807
Died in the Country - - - - - 1997
Ditto of the Family - - - - - 252
Struck off the Books - - - - - 2847

12905

Died in Nursery in three Quarters ending 25th March 1797 - 1060
Ditto in the Country - - - - - 250
Ditto of the Family - - - - - 7

1297

(Errors excepted)

A. BAILIE, Reg.

Admitted - - - - 12786
Given to Parents - - - - 254

12532 Admitted.

Dead - - - - 10056
Struck off - - - - 2847
Eloped - - - - 86

* Grown Children.

12989 Dead or unaccounted for.



*Petition of A. Hunt, Matron to the Foundling Hospital,
dated 4th April, 1797.*

To the Right Hon. and Hon. the Governors of the Foundling Hospital, the Humble Petition of Alice Hunt, Matron,

Sheweth,

That your Petitioner thinks it her duty to represent to your Honors the distressing consequences of a report which has been circulated among the lower class of people in the different Counties and Parishes respecting this Charity, that Infants are no longer to be taken in, and that the Nurses will never be paid for those Children which they have in their care; this is the report founded on the rumour of the threatened invasion, which has entirely kept back the country Nurses from coming, as was usual, to take the Infants to nurse, and which must, of course, if not remedied, frustrate the intention of the Institution. Your Petitioner, therefore, prays that your Honors will take it into consideration to order printed papers to be distributed throughout the different Parishes, and directed to the Minister of each Parish, in such terms as shall appear best to your Honors, for the removing those doubts which have arisen, and for the encouragement of the Nurses. The number of Infants which are daily dying in this Hospital, will prove to your Honors the necessity of this expedient; and your Petitioner further begs leave to represent to your Honors that those Infants, which remain any time in this Hospital, would require something more nourishing than panado, which is nothing more than bread and water made palatable; they would sometimes require a little wine, and sometimes broth, to sustain them.

*Report of Sub-Committee appointed to inspect the Infant
Side of the Foundling Hospital.*

11th April, 1797.

Your Committee this day appointed to inspect the Nurseries on the Foundling side of the Hospital, and to endeavour to discover the cause of the late very extraordinary and alarming mortality among the Infants, urged by humanity, did not lose a moment in proceeding to the Hospital for that purpose; and though their observations may, upon further deliberation, be productive of several propositions essential to the Economy of this great National Establishment, at present they can only report the information which their inspection and inquiries produced.

Your Committee, on entering the Hospital, called on the Porter, whose duty it is to receive the Infant Foundlings at the gate or cradle, and to carry them to the Nursery; this man said that the Children received during the quarter, which ended on the 25th of March last, were in general as healthy and strong as those received in any other quarter during his time; that he had remarked, of late, that numbers of them were very strong fine Children—said he had been in that employment upwards of two years.

Your Committee proceeded to the Foundling Nursery, in which were sixteen Infants; some of them a few hours in the house appeared healthy and strong, others seemingly exhausted and neglected, and all (except one) in cradles, though several of them were awake. To superintend this Nursery there are three appointments, viz. a Matron, a Deputy Matron, and a Deputy to the Deputy Matron. This last mentioned woman your Committee found in the Nursery, seemingly attentive to her duty; and your Committee are apprehensive that the very great charge, a charge of the first consequence, vested in the three, rests principally, if not solely, with her. Mrs. Hunt, the chief Matron, attended on being sent for, but the Deputy did not make her appearance. In the Foundlings Infirmary,

a black and gloomy apartment, were eighteen Infants, lying three and four together in filthy cradles, and with covering, in the opinion of your Committee, insufficient to preserve vital heat in the bodies of Infants at an inclement season, and remote from fire. This Infirmary exhibits a scene which must excite the most unfeeling to pity—there are only two women to attend this Infirmary. Your Committee made some observations on the miserable situation of those Infants, and were informed by Mrs. Hunt (the chief Matron) by way of accounting for what your Committee considered inhuman neglect—“ That those “ Children were just laid there to die.” Your Committee think it particularly incumbent on them to submit to the Board, that in the Foundling Nursery or Infirmary (according to the information they received) no human efforts are ever made use of to save the lives of Children, except administering to them the common food, bread and milk or bread and water. When weakly Infants are sent into this place of death, whether their weakness arises from premature birth, from diseased parents, or, what is most frequent, from the fatigue of a long journey and want of nourishment, all are indiscriminately treated; bread and milk or bread and water must sustain them, or they perish. No care or exertion to recover them; and though a Physician, a Surgeon and Apothecary, are attached to the establishment, no medical advice or assistance are ever administered to the unfortunate innocents.

It does not appear to your Committee that the Children in this Nursery experience the least degree of exercise, which they conceive to be particularly necessary for the preservation, and, in many cases, the recovery of health, and to add strength to their tender bodies.

Your Committee sincerely lament the necessity of stating facts, which carry a complexion of more than savage cruelty, and which, where humanity and national character are so deeply interested, must attract the immediate attention of the Board; remedies for such pernicious evils cannot be too speedily applied.

JOHN TRAIL,
HENRY C. SIRR,
JOHN HEWITT,
SAMUEL MURRAY.

The Committee having examined Mrs. Hunt particularly with respect to the medical assistance mentioned in the above Report, she acknowledged that the Surgeon, or an eminent Surgeon for him, regularly attended two or three times each week, and that the resident Apothecary gave a constant attendance to the Infants on their reception.

S. M,

An Account of the Number of Children admitted into the Foundling Hospital in the two Years ending the 25th March 1797, specifying such as were diseased, and distinguishing each Quarter.

	<i>Admitted.</i>	<i>Diseased.</i>
In the Quarter ending the 24th June 1795	644	319
29th September do.	452	201
25th December do.	399	174
25th March 1796	568	255
24th June do.	618	299
29th September do.	527	246
25th December do.	387	201
25th March 1797	540	280
	4135	1975

Admitted, 4135—diseased, 1975, (errors excepted.)

A. BAILIE, Reg.

J. SHAUGHNISSY, Apothecary.

Infant Children sent from the Country to the Foundling Hospital, for six Years ending 24th June, 1796, distinguishing each Quarter.

From 24th June to 29th September, 1790	-	314
From 29th September to 25th December, 1790		260
From 25th December, 1790, to 25th March, 1791		354
From 25th March to 24th June, 1791	- -	396
		<hr/> 1324
From 24th June to 29th September, 1791	-	285
From 29th September to 25th December, 1791		209
From 25th December, 1791, to 25th March, 1792		314
From 25th March to 24th June, 1792	- -	347
		<hr/> 1155
From 24th June to 29th September, 1792	-	294
From 29th September to 25th December, 1792		243
From 25th December, 1792, to 25th March, 1793		338
From 25th March to 24th June, 1793	- -	403
		<hr/> 1278
From 24th June to 29th September, 1793	-	341
From 29th September to 25th December, 1793		229
From 25th December, 1793, to 25th March, 1794		325
From 25th March to 24th June, 1794	- -	377
		<hr/> 1272
From 24th June to 29th September, 1794	-	272
From 29th September to 25th December, 1794		220
From 25th December, 1794, to 25th March, 1795		327
From 25th March to 24th June, 1795	- -	430
		<hr/> 1249
From 24th June to 29th September, 1795	-	265
From 29th September to 25th December, 1795		239
From 25th December, 1795, to 25th March, 1796		267
From 25th March to 24th June, 1796	- -	391
		<hr/> 1162
(Errors excepted,)	Total	- 7440

A. BAILIE, Register.

Extracts from the Bye-Laws, agreed to and confirmed 1st May, 1777.

DUTY OF THE PHYSICIAN.

THAT it be the duty of the Physician to visit the Hospital regularly every Monday and Friday, and at all times when sent for; to attend carefully to the health of the Children, giving his advice to, and prescribing proper medicines for all such Officers, Servants, Nurses, or aged Poor as shall have occasion for his assistance and shall require the same, and to sign his name to all prescriptions ordered by him, or with his consent, at the end of each day's prescriptions; all such medicines, and none other, to be provided at the expense of this Corporation.

That if the Physician shall find any particular article of food, prescribed by the Dietary, to disagree with the Children, from the nature of the season, any disorder being rife amongst them, or from such article not being to be had good for a certain time, he do suspend the use of such article for such time as shall be found necessary, and substitute some other article in its stead if he shall think fit, lodging a report of the same, with his reasons for so doing, with the Register in his office, to be by him laid before the next Court of Assistants; and if he shall see reason to make any permanent alteration, that he do lodge his report for the same with the Register, as aforesaid, to be by him laid before the Governors, at the next General Assembly that shall meet, for their determination thereupon.

That if the Physician or Surgeon shall think it prudent to substitute any other kind of flesh-meat or other food in the place of such as is allowed by the established Dietary for any of the Children or other persons under their respective care in the Infirmarys, that they do enter the same at the foot of the prescriptions of each day, distinguishing the kind of flesh-meat or other food, with the quantities that will be necessary of the same, and the

number of persons such other food shall be given to, and that the Apothecary, in his daily returns to the Register, (said returns being countersigned by the Head Nurse-tender,) do mark the several kinds of flesh-meat or other provision, with the quantities thereof which shall be necessary to be distributed in the Infirmarys, in the following days, with the quantity of Bread that may be wanted for poultices, said return to be the only voucher to the House-keeper and Butler for the delivery of such provisions and Poultice-Bread, the Apothecary entering a copy of said returns in a Book to be kept for that purpose, said Book to be signed by the Physician and Surgeon, in their several departments, on every Monday and Friday, and to be laid before the Treasurer and Register every following Monday Morning, along with the Books of the House-keeper and Butler.

DUTY OF THE SURGEON.

That it be the duty of the Surgeon to visit the Hospital regularly every day, to attend carefully to all Surgical Complaints of the Children, whether in the Infirmarys or at large, and to extend his care to all Officers, Servants, Nurses, or aged Poor who shall have occasion for his assistance, and shall require the same.

DUTY OF THE APOTHECARY.

That the duty of the Apothecary be to enter, in a Book ruled in proper columns, the Names of the Sick, their diseases, medicines administered, and times of being received into and discharged from the Infirmarys, according to the manner observed in Steevens's Hospital.

To report in writing to the Register, the death of each Child as it shall happen, with the cause thereof, who shall report the same to the Chaplain, and if it die of such disorder as may require immediate burial, to notify the same to him, and that he do return an abstract of said Book to the Governors, distinguishing each Infirmary respectively, particularly that of the Infants, at each Quarterly General Assembly.

To wait upon the Physician and Surgeon with a Book where all the prescriptions are to be regularly entered by them, marking for whom ordered, and if for a Child, its number to be wrote on the prescription and also on the medicines ; said Book to be laid before the Treasurer to be compared by him, with the quantities of medicines brought into the Apothecary's shop.

To obey, at all times, the directions of the Physician and Surgeon, and upon any complaint of him to be made by them to the Treasurer, the Treasurer is to lay the same before the Court of General Assembly, or Court of Assistants, whichever shall first meet.

To see that the Nurses in the new and Surgical Infirmaries are able to read and write, and well acquainted with all the duties of Nurse-keeping, and to report to the Treasurer if any of them be not properly qualified, the Physician and Surgeon, in their respective Infirmaries, certifying the same, who shall, thereupon, discharge such Nurse, and appoint another in her room, taking care, if he shall perceive any indecency or want of order prevail in said Infirmaries, to admonish the head Nurse-keeper thereof, and if the same shall continue after such admonition, to acquaint the Treasurer therewith.

To make a daily return to the Register of all persons that are in the Infirmaries, distinguishing those who are upon the meat diet, from those who are upon the milk diet.

A. BAILIE, Register.

An Account of the Number of Children sent into the Infant Infirmary in the last six Years, distinguishing the Venereal Disorder from other Complaints, how many have died, and how many have recovered.

	<i>Sent into the Infir- mary.</i>	<i>For Vene- real Dis- order.</i>	<i>For other com- plaints.</i>	<i>Died.</i>	<i>Reco- vered.</i>
For one Year ending 24th June 1791	780	779	1	779	*3
1792	861	860	1	861	
1793	803	803		803	
1794	903	903		903	
1795	959	959		959	
1796	910	910		910	
	5216	5214	2	5215	3

* Two of these were sent into the Infirmary the preceding Quarter.

(Errors excepted.)

JAMES SHAUGHNISSY, Apothecary.

An Account of the Number of Children entertained in the Hospital, and at Nurse in the Country, for ten Years ending the 24th June 1796, distinguishing each Year.

	<i>Children in the Hospital.</i>	<i>Infants in the Nursery.</i>	<i>Supposed at Nurse in the Country.</i>
The 24th June 1787 -	304	16	4449
1788 -	456	45	4672
1789 -	457	26	4737
1790 -	493	35	4576
1791 -	411	33	4867
1792 -	533	37	3655
1793 -	461	53	3424
1794 -	379	33	3480
1795 -	294	36	3272
1796 -	500	45	2865

(Errors excepted.)

A. BAILIE, Reg.

An Account of the Number of Children admitted into the Foundling Hospital, and of such as have died, have been apprenticed, or otherwise disposed of, and of such as they have not been able to account for, during the twelve Years ending 24th June, 1796, distinguishing each Year.

	<i>Admitted.</i>	<i>Died in Nursery.</i>	<i>Died in the Country.</i>	<i>Died of the Family.</i>	<i>Total Deaths.</i>	<i>Struck off the Books.</i>	<i>Apprenticed.</i>	<i>Eloped.</i>	<i>Given to Parents.</i>
For the Years ending 24th June 1785	1900	559	518	12	889	595	74	25	28
1786	2150	541	529	70	1140	657	370	21	27
1787	2051	409	641	26	1076	719	74	5	22
1788	2144	677	569	62	1308	314	75	15	34
1789	2154	925	400	12	1357	646	71	3	29
1790	2187	945	465	37	1447	664	124	15	30
1791	2192	1205	404	13	1622	676	100	20	41
1792	1998	1281	283	68	1632	658	196	27	44
1793	2205	1287	595	42	1724	448	266	8	33
1794	2255	1285	413	26	1724	345	178	8	44
1795	2101	1470	280	47	1797	309	218	11	50
1796	2057	1279	222	56	1557	411	190	12	42
Total	25352	11663	5119	471	17253	6442	1956	170	424

Died in Nursery in the twelve Years ending the 24th June, 1796	-	11663
Died in the Country ditto ditto	-	5119
Died of the Family ditto ditto	-	471
Struck off the Books ditto ditto	-	6442
Total	-	25695

	<i>Admitted.</i>	<i>Died.</i>
Admitted in the six Years ending 24th June, 1790	12566	3856
Average on each Year	2094	643
Admitted in the six Years ending 24th June, 1796	12786	7807
Average on each Year	2131	1301

(Errors excepted)

A. BAILIE, Reg.

An Account of the Children admitted into the Foundling Hospital, and of such as have died, have been apprenticed, and otherwise disposed of, and of such as have not been accounted for, for six years ending the 25th March, 1797.

Infants admitted from the 25th March, 1791, to the 25th March, 1797	-	-	-	12681
Infants that died in the Nursery in same period				8243
Died in the country in same period	-	-		1921
Died of the family in same period	-	-		252
Returned to Parents in said period (four of the family)	-	-	-	257
Apprenticed in same period	-	-		1214
Eloped from the Hospital in same period			-	72
Struck off the Books, payment not being demanded in same period	-	-	-	2847

(Errors excepted,)

A. BAILIE, Register.

GOVERNORS

OF THE

FOUNDLING HOSPITAL.

LORD LIEUTENANT

Lord Primate

Lord Chancellor

Lord Archbishop of Dublin

Speaker of the House of Commons

Lord of the Manor of Thomas-court and Donore

Chancellor of the Exchequer

Secretary of State

Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench

Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas

Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer

Prime Serjeant

Attorney General

Solicitor General

Vicar General of Dublin

Dean of Christ's Church

Dean of Saint Patrick's

Recorder of Dublin

State Physician

Physician General of the Army

Surgeon General

State Surgeon

Governor of the County Dublin

Chairman of the Sessions of Kilmainham

Seneschal of Saint Sepulchre's

Seneschal of Thomas-court

Seneschal of Grange Gorman

Seneschal of Saint Patrick's

Seneschal of Kilmainham

Master of the Royal Hospital

Members of Parliament for the City of Dublin

Members of Parliament for the County of Dublin

Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor

Alderman Reed

Alderman Thorpe

Alderman Truelock

Alderman Sutton

Alderman Andrews

Alderman Fleming

Alderman Worthington

Alderman Carleton

Alderman Moncrief

Alderman Sankey

Alderman Howison

Alderman James

Alderman Exshaw

Alderman Alexander

Alderman Rose

Alderman Hamilton

Alderman Green

Alderman Lynam

Alderman Bevan

Alderman Crothers

Alderman Lightburne

Alderman Poole

Alderman Manders

Alderman Hutton

Alderman Jenkin.

High Sheriff of the County of Dublin

High Sheriffs of the City of Dublin

Chaplain to the City of Dublin

Rector of Saint Mary's

Vicar of Saint Peter's

Rector of Saint Thomas's

Curate of Saint Werburgh's

Prebendary of Saint Michael

Vicar of Saint Andrew's
 Vicar of Saint Anne's
 Prebendary of Saint Audeon's
 Curate of Saint Bridget's
 Vicar of Saint Catherine's
 Vicar of Saint James's
 Prebendary of Saint Michan's

Curate of Saint Luke's
 Vicar of Saint Mark's
 Prebendary of Saint John's
 Curate of Saint Nicholas within
 Curate of Saint Nicholas without
 Rector of Saint Paul's

(All the foregoing are official Governors, and, of course, their places would never be vacant; if they were named as in the draft, it would be otherwise.)

Marquis of Lansdowne
 Earl of Kerry
 Earl of Shannon
 Earl of Charlemont
 Bishop of Cork
 Bishop of Cloyne
 Bishop of Kildare
 Viscount Cremorne
 Earl of Ely
 Viscount Northland
 Earl of Leitrim
 Lord Dillon
 Robert Alexander, Esq.
 Hon. Richard Annesley
 Right Hon. Sir John Blaquiere,
 K.B.
 Hugh Brown, Esq.
 Beresford Burston, Esq.
 William Bury, Esq.
 James Blaquiere, Esq.
 Right Hon. Edward Carey
 Thomas Cobbe, Esq.
 Right Hon. Thomas Conolly
 Maurice Copinger, Esq.
 Morgan Crofton, Esq.
 Rev. Henry Crofton
 Alex. Carrol, Esq.
 Jasper Debrisay, Esq.
 Philip Despard, Esq.
 John Doyle, Esq.
 Major General Eustace
 Maximilian Faviere, Esq.
 Sir Frederick Flood

John Godley, Esq.
 Thomas Gold, Esq.
 William Gore, Esq.
 Rt. Hon. Henry Grattan
 John Hatch, Esq.
 Ephraim Hutchinson, Esq.
 Sir Francis Hutchinson, Bart.
 Rev. Archdeacon Hastings
 Alexander Kirkpatrick, Esq.
 Joseph Kane, Esq.
 Edward Kane, Esq.
 Thomas Kingsbury, Esq.
 Rev. Thomas Kingsbury
 John Ladaveze, Esq.
 Sir Hercules Langrishe, Bart.
 Rt. Hon. David La Touche
 John La Touche, Esq.
 Peter La Touche, Esq.
 David La Touche, Jun. Esq.
 Ambrose Leet, Esq.
 John Lees, Esq.
 John Leigh, Esq.
 Robert Leigh, Esq.
 Sir Edward Leslie, Bart.
 Sir Edward Loftus, Bart.
 John Lyster, Esq.
 Rt. Hon. John Monck Mason
 Hugh Henry Mitchell, Esq.
 Rt. Hon. Sir Capel Molyneux,
 Bart.
 George Paul Monck, Esq.
 Humphry Minchin, Esq.
 Charles Stanley Monck, Esq.

Rt. Hon. Lodge Morres
 Sir Wm. Gleadowe Newcomen,
 Bart.
 Sir Edward Newenham, Knt.
 Rt. Hon. George Ogle
 John Ormsby, Esq.
 Chas. Montague Ormsby, Esq.
 Rev. Thomas Quinn
 Henry Stephens Reilly, Esq.
 John Rochfort, Esq.
 Syden Singleton, Esq.
 Joseph Sirr, Esq.
 Ambrose Smith, Esq.
 Hamilton Stewart, Esq.
 Henry Charles Sirr, Esq.

William Stamer, Esq.
 Frederick Trench, Esq.
 Sir John Trail
 Rev. Mr. Vesey
 John Wallis,
 Holt Warring, Esq.
 Charles Ward, Esq.
 Edmd. Weld Hartstonge, Esq.
 John Whiteway, Esq.
 Rev. Mr. Woodward
 Henry Talbot Worthington,
 Esq.
 Alexander Worthington, Esq.
 Peter Wybrants, Esq.
 One vacant.



